

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

THE WHOLESALE MOTOR FUEL FAIRNESS AND COMPETITION RESTORATION ACT

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 17, 2000

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the "Wholesale Motor Fuel Fairness and Competition Restoration Act," legislation designed to restore fair and competitive practices to the wholesale sale of motor fuel.

Beyond the per barrel price of crude oil, there are a number of other factors that influence the retail pump price Americans pay for gasoline and diesel fuel, including those related to supply, refining, consumer demand and, most important, oil company cost, pricing and marketing practices.

Several cost, pricing and marketing practices employed by the oil companies are unfair and anti-competitive and contribute to the unjustified price Americans pay for fuel. Under the bill I am introducing today, many of them would be expressly prohibited, if not made more difficult. These practices include price zoning, redlining, discriminatory wholesale fuel pricing, and a complex and complicated system of cost allocation the companies use that hide the factors on which wholesale costs are based and published.

Mr. Speaker, for too long, the residents of California's First Congressional District have paid too much for gasoline. For more than a year, they have paid some of the highest pump prices of any region in the country. For more than a year, they have paid well above \$2-a-gallon for regular unleaded gasoline. Many others across the nation face similar unjustified pricing.

Last month, I met with U.S. Energy Secretary Bill Richardson and brought to his attention the unfair situation that confronts the residents of Northern California. I made it clear that I and my constituents were not satisfied with the degree of attention the Department was paying to gas prices in Northern California and I sent both him and the President letters urging them to improve their scrutiny of oil company practices in California.

Nonetheless, it is clear from my discussions with fuel distributors and independent retailers that the wholesale motor fuel market is unfair and anti-competitive. An independent fuel distributor in my district recently related to me that he is charged a price at the terminal facility that is sometimes 30 cents higher than the price charged to company-owned or franchise distributors. Yet, his profit margin on a gallon of gasoline is at times less than one-half a cent!

Another district resident who owns a number of gas stations is also a victim of some of these predatory pricing practices, but in a different way. In his situation, because of pricing discrimination, he buys motor fuel at a high wholesale price and is forced to sell it for less

than he paid for it in order to remain competitive.

The bill I am introducing today seeks to stop these unfair and anti-competitive practices.

The "Wholesale Motor Fuel Fairness and Competition Restoration Act" addresses several of the major factors that have been identified by industry experts as contributing to the unfair and unjustified pricing of gasoline, including discriminatory pricing, red-lining, price zoning and company ownership of retail stations.

Discriminatory pricing occurs when terminal facility owners and operators charge different prices for gasoline depending on the type of contractual relationship that the station has with the refinery. In my district for example, motor fuel sold through an oil-company owned station wholesales is sometimes twenty to thirty cents less per gallon than motor fuel being sold to an independent. This is patently unfair and anti-competitive.

Price zoning is a long-standing oil company practice of setting artificially high or low prices in certain areas to either maximize profit or impede competition. If a particular city or even a particular intersection is deemed to be especially profitable, oil companies will artificially inflate the price to gouge consumers or artificially deflate the price to driver competitors out of business. This, too is unfair.

Redlining is the practice engaged in by a terminal facility of refusing to sell motor fuel to a particular retail outlet that in some cases had previously purchased fuel from that facility in an effort to eliminate or harm competition.

The "Wholesale Motor Fuel Fairness and Competition Restoration Act" uses a two-pronged approach to address these unfair practices. First, it requires full disclosure by oil companies of their wholesale pricing practices. This means that oil companies will be required to reveal their pricing structure, including rebates, refunds, and discounts, so that the American people will finally be able to most fully understand how these companies arrive at the price on the gas station sign. Currently, much of this information is not publicly available nor is collected by the Department of Energy's Information Administration.

Secondly, this bill will make it illegal for companies to discriminate on price. It does this by requiring that the price charged at the terminal facility, where gasoline is loaded on tanker trucks, is the same regardless of who is purchasing it. By eliminating the price discrimination between company-owned stations, franchisees, and independent operators, it will for the first time introduce a level playing field into the motor fuel marketplace.

The third component of this legislation addresses oil company ownership of gas stations by mandating the Federal Trade Commission to undertake a study into the relationship between ownership of gas stations and the high price of motor fuel.

In Humboldt County, California, pump prices continue to exceed \$2.00 for a gallon of regular (unleaded) gasoline, evidencing the unique position of the major oil companies to

exert undue influence on the price of motor fuels. In California, the six major refineries in California control 92% of all oil refining in the state, whereas the top six refineries in Texas control only 60% of that state's gasoline production. This inordinate market domination allows companies to practice discriminatory pricing practices that favor some customers over others. It allows them to target certain markets in order to gain unfair advantage and drive out competitors. It is the kind of market practice that warrants the bill I am proposing today.

Mr. Speaker, the Wholesale Motor Fuel Fairness and Competition Restoration Act will restore fairness and competition to the motor fuel industry, not just in California but across the nation. I urge its prompt consideration.

TRANSPORTATION RECALL ENHANCEMENT, ACCOUNTABILITY, AND DOCUMENTATION (TREAD) ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. TOM SAWYER

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 10, 2000

Mr. SAWYER. Mr. Speaker, in the course of the last century, Akron, Ohio, has built millions of tires. Although passenger tires have not been built in Akron for more than 20 years, Akron remains the center point in research and development, technology, and command and control for this global industry. We care deeply about safety and we are profoundly distressed over the deaths linked to the Firestone tires. The Akron community strongly supports the much-needed overhaul of tire regulation and oversight authority embodied in the Transportation Recall Enhancement, Accountability, and Documentation (TREAD) Act.

It is our responsibility to bring tire regulation firmly into the 21st century. The current regulations that make up the Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards (FMVSS) Section 109 were written in the mid-1960s, when bias tires still dominated the market. To be fair, National Highway and Transportation Safety Administration (NHTSA) and the tire industry have been working for the last three years to elevate tire standards worldwide.

While we must all work together to demand the safest tire possible, we must also recognize that the industry cannot build a perfect tire. In the early part of the last century, in the days of the Model T, cars carried as many as four spare tires. In the 1950's, there were cars carrying two spares. Today, cars typically carry only one. But the point remains: the only backup piece of equipment that comes on a car is a spare tire, and it is there on purpose.

Today's tires are complex products. They are highly engineered devices operating in one of the most extraordinarily violent environments of any consumer product we use in our ordinary daily lives. Modern cars develop 100's of horsepower, 100's of pound-feet of

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

torque. They also possess extraordinary cornering power and a steering capacity unsurpassed in the history of the automobile. Today's cars also have braking systems designed to bring thousands of pounds to a halt rapidly. All these forces express themselves through four patches, each the size of a human hand. That tires perform 700 revolutions per mile, mile after mile to 50,000 miles and beyond with such low rates of failure is extraordinary.

Oliver Wendell Holmes Jr. said, "great cases, like hard cases, make bad law." Congress was put under extraordinary pressure to act quickly on an extremely complex issue in developing the TREAD Act. The TREAD Act should not be viewed as a panacea for the recent car tragedies. While the TREAD Act sets higher standards for tire performance, tires will continue to fail. Because of the imperfect nature of the tire, it will take continual attention from the industry, consumer groups, regulators and Congress to assure the safety of tire consumers above and beyond the TREAD Act.

While Congress cannot legislate a perfect tire, this is good law and improves current safety standards. In spite of the time constraints, intricacy of the issue, and politically charged atmosphere, the TREAD Act sets out realistic standards that improve safety and can also be reasonably implemented by the industry and enforced by NHTSA.

First, the Act requires manufacturers to report comprehensive foreign and domestic tire data, such as claims and warranty information, that will help NHTSA uncover safety problems across the world, not just in the United States.

Second, the Act holds NHTSA accountable for any data it receives from manufacturers. The agency must tell Congress how it plans to analyze the data as well as what systems it has in place to process the data. This way Congress and the public knows that the information will be used to help identify safety problems and not filed away behind some regulators desk.

The TREAD Act presents a balanced approach to improving tire safety. Because of this Act, we can expect that when a problem occurs, it is identified, its cause is established, and consumers are better protected. In the end, we crafted a bill that is a significant achievement and moves toward greatly improving consumer safety.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF SAMOAN HEAVYWEIGHT BOXER
DAVID TUA

HON. ENI F.H. FALEOMAVAEGA

OF AMERICAN SAMOA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 17, 2000

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, what is it that Olympian gold-medalist volleyballer Eric Fonoimoana, Junior Seau of the San Diego Chargers, Joe Salvare'a of the Tennessee Titans, Edwin Mulitalo of the Baltimore Ravens, Naomi Multaupo of the Utah Starzz, Marcus Tuiasosopo of the Washington Huskies, All-American UCLA discus thrower Seilala Su'a, Yokozuna Sumo Grand Champion Musashimaru, Ozeki Sumo Champion Konishiki, WWF Wrestling Champion Tui feai, "The Rock", and heavyweight boxer David Tua all have in common? Mr. Speaker, they

are all Samoans. Not Somalians. Mr. Speaker—they are Samoan Polynesians who share the same cultural heritage like the Maoris of New Zealand, the Hawaiians or Kanaka Maoli, Tongans, and Tahitians.

After the elections Mr. Speaker, I suggest to my colleagues and to the millions of boxing fans throughout America, to kick back and turn their TV sets on to HBO and witness one of the most historical events that will transpire on the evening of November 11th in Las Vegas—the world heavyweight boxing championship fight between Lennox Lewis and Samoan heavyweight boxer David Tua.

Mr. Speaker, it is against Samoan tradition to be boastful and arrogant—but as a totally neutral observer and with all due respect—Lennox Lewis is going to painfully wake up the next morning and count how many ribs he has left, and then he will wonder if he was hit by either a dump-truck or a D-nine caterpillar tractor, after fighting against David Tua.

You see, Mr. Speaker, this guy David Tua—he has the heart and soul of a true Polynesian warrior. He's got a nasty left hook and a deadly right hand knockout punch. He only weighs about 250 pounds. He has no neck, and his legs and calves are like tree trunks—which is typical of Samoan men who also wear what we here in America describe as skirts, but they are actually lavalavas.

I want to express my personal thanks and appreciation to the good people of New Zealand—all the pakehas and our Polynesian cousins the Tangata Maohi for looking after David Tua and his family, and for their acceptance of David Tua—and I say to my Maori cousins—"Tena Koutou! Tena Koutou!" Thank you, Thank you!

Mr. Speaker, in describing David Tua's physical presence, I am reminded of a poem that a Hawaiian comedian Frank Delima once wrote about Samoans. By the way, Mr. Speaker, David Tua's favorite past time is writing poetry. Anyway, the poem, in part, is entitled "Abdullah Fata'ai" and it goes like this:

I'm nine feet tall and six feet wide.
I got a neck made of elephant hide
I scrape da haoles off the soles of my feet
I drive my Volkswagen from the back seat

* * * * *

I eat green bananas, tree and all
My favorite game is tackle football
I wear a skirt, but you better not laugh
Cause it won't be funny when I break you in half

I'm as gentle and sweet as a grizzly bear
Only difference is he got more hair

* * * * *

I got the nicest smile in all the Pacific
I got an island home that's super terrific
But I don't like fight and you don't like die
So when I say, "Talofa!" you better say, "Hi!"

Mr. Speaker, I call upon the Prime Minister of the Independent and Sovereign State of Samoa and the Governor of the U.S. Territory of American Samoa to declare November 11th as National David Tua Day. It will be a day that will be remembered by Samoans throughout the world—the Samoan "David" going up against the Goliath "Lennox Lewis"—and we all know the results of that famous encounter.

I do not know if David Tua is listening to this presentation, Mr. Speaker, but I do know that David Tua is a humble man—never speaks ill of his opponents, and I believe the American people and boxing fans around the world are

going to remember him well for his talents, and above all, his sportsmanship like conduct.

As we say in the Samoan language, (the gentleman spoke in Samoan) "la pouliuli lou tino, ma ia malamalama ou mata, ma tafe toto ou ala—ou mama na, David Tua," which means, Mr. Speaker, "May your body be as invisible as the air and may your eyes be as bright as the sun. May you be victorious in battle—all our hopes and aspirations are with you, David Tua."

PAUL HAMM'S 2000 SUMMER OLYMPIC PERFORMANCE APPLAUDED

HON. GERALD D. KLECZKA

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 17, 2000

Mr. KLECZKA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an outstanding young man from my district who has recently returned from Sydney, Australia, where he represented his country proudly in Olympic competition. In August Paul Hamm, along with his brother Morgan, became the first set of twins to ever qualify for the United States' men's gymnastics team. At 18, the young men from Waukesha, Wisconsin, are also the second youngest male gymnasts in U.S. Olympic history.

Paul's overall performance earned him a 14th place finish in the all around competition. The Olympics are always a time of pride in our nation's athletes, however this was especially true for the people of southeastern Wisconsin this summer. Paul and Morgan's story gave us all another reason to watch and cheer for two of our own.

Paul has put years of hard work and dedication into perfecting the skills that have taken him to the pinnacle of his sport. He has worked with his coach, Stacy Maloney, since the age of six to earn the right to compete with the best in the world. To reach the Olympic stature at such a young age and with relatively little experience in major events is truly amazing.

Of course Paul would not have been able to reach the heights that he has attained without a strong support system. The natural competition he had with his brother Morgan pushed them both to be their best. Their parents, Sandy and Cecily, are to be commended for the sacrifices that they have made to help their sons reach their goals. From the time Sandy convinced Stacy Maloney to coach his six year old sons to the trip to Sydney, the Hamms have provided their sons with the opportunity to excel.

Paul is not only an exceptional athlete, he is also a role model for the young people of America. Despite squeezing two daily practices in between his classes, he is an honor student at Waukesha South High School. Even though he has missed the entire fall semester, he intends to graduate with the rest of his class next spring. Paul's successes, both in the gym and in the classroom, prove just how much can be accomplished through hard work and dedication.

And so it is with great pleasure that I congratulate Paul Hamm on his Olympic accomplishments, and wish him all the best as he looks forward to a long career leading the U.S. men's gymnastics team into the new century.

TRIBUTE TO CONGRESSMAN TOM
BLILEY

SPEECH OF

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 12, 2000

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I am going to miss TOM BLILEY. He has been wonderful to work with—always a man of his word, always a gentleman, consistent and honorable in his philosophical approach to government.

We worked together as Chairman and Ranking Member of the old House District of Columbia Committee on a bipartisan basis, reflecting the joint agreement among liberal and the conservative ideas that there should be minimal interference in the internal, local affairs of a group of U.S. citizens who do not have all the rights and privileges of the rest of the nation.

This year, we have worked together to expose the outrageous behavior of some of the nation's largest pharmaceutical manufacturers in abusing Medicare, Medicaid, private insurers, and patients through falsified pricing data. The drug companies are huge contributors to both parties, but Chairman BLILEY has subpoenaed and exposed internal company documents that describe a conspiracy against the American people by companies like Glaxo, Pharmacia, and others. I know there was tremendous pressure not to expose these documents, but Chairman BLILEY did the right thing.

The Nation will miss, I will miss Chairman BLILEY's courtly, quiet presence, and I hope he will stay in contact with us in the years ahead.

HONORING THE CALIFORNIA CON-
SERVATION CORPS AND THE
CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF
CONSERVATION

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 17, 2000

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the California Conservation Corps and the California Department of Conservation.

The partnership between these agencies have spawned the Salmon Restoration Program. Since 1980 the Salmon Restoration Program has improved more than 1,000 stream miles, presented more than 65,000 hours of watershed curricula to tens of thousands of Californians, worked in hundreds of watersheds, and planted well over one million trees.

The California Conservation Corps and the California Department of Conservation are at the forefront of the science of stream salmonid habitat restoration. The Salmon Restoration Program is the largest and longest running project of its kind in the country.

Mr. Speaker, because salmon restoration is an issue of national importance, and because the Salmon Restoration Project has reduced the decline in salmon population, it is appropriate at this time that we acknowledge the outstanding efforts and twenty-year anniversary of California's Salmon Restoration Project.

BUILDING SKILLS FOR AMERICA

HON. TOM SAWYER

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 17, 2000

Mr. SAWYER. Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday September 20, 2000, more than 300 students from across the country converged to support the Skills USA-VICA's "Building Skills for America" campaign.

These students collected more than 200,000 signatures from business and industry in support of worker training. The enclosed letter, which was signed by forty members of Congress, recognizes the fine work of the students of Skills USA-VICA. I submit the following letter into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
Washington, DC, September 26, 2000.

SKILLS USA-VICA,
P.O. Box 3000,
Leesburg, VA.

DEAR STUDENTS: The undersigned Members of Congress applaud and congratulate your participation in the "Building Skills for America" campaign.

America is projected to have 50.6 million job openings between now and 2006, most of which will require highly developed skills. Unfortunately, employers across the country are experiencing difficulty finding enough qualified, skilled employees. This shortage is a threat to our strong economy and hampers the ability of American businesses to compete successfully.

Our nation can do more to promote careers in skilled occupations. Programs such as Skills USA-VICA's "Building Skills for America" demonstrate the strong support for vocational and technical education, as students were able to collect more than 200,000 signatures from business and industry that support worker training.

The "Building Skills for America" campaign is also important because it brings students together with the business and industry that will be their future employers. These partnerships provide students with the occupational and professional experience they need to succeed in the workplace, while at the same time increasing the pool from which industry can draw capable employees.

All of you who have participated in the "Building Skills for America" campaign should be proud of your accomplishment. We congratulate you for this impressive achievement, and look forward to working with you to ensure that we continue to build a strong and productive American workforce.

Sincerely,

Tom Sawyer, John Peterson, and 43 other
Members of Congress.

CONGRATULATIONS TO MORGAN
HAMM OF WAUKESHA, WIS-
CONSIN, ON HIS OLYMPIC PER-
FORMANCE

HON. GERALD D. KLECZKA

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 17, 2000

Mr. KLECZKA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor 18 year-old Morgan Hamm of Waukesha, Wisconsin, on his accomplishments in the 2000 Summer Olympics in Sydney, Australia. In August Morgan and his brother Paul became the second youngest

gymnasts to ever qualify for the United States' men's team. The Hamms are also the first set of twins in U.S. Olympic gymnastics history.

Morgan beat out stiff competition to earn an at-large berth onto the team. He returned from Sydney with a 7th place finish in the floor competition. In southeastern Wisconsin the excitement of the Olympics was heightened this year by the knowledge that we would have two home town heroes competing half way around the world.

Morgan's accomplishments are not confined to the gymnasium. Despite squeezing two daily practices in between his classes, he is an honor student at Waukesha South High School. After missing a full semester to tour with the Olympic team, Morgan still intends to graduate with the rest of his class next spring.

As much work as Morgan has put into reaching his goals, he could not have made it on his own. Competing with Paul pushed both twins to be their very best. The sacrifices of their parents, Sandy and Cecily, have provided the Hamms with the opportunity to excel.

The years of work with his brother, their sister Betsy and their coach, Stacy Maloney, has earned Morgan the right to compete with the best in the world. To reach the Olympic stature at such a young age and with relatively little experience in major events is truly amazing.

And so it is with great pleasure that I congratulate Morgan Hamm on all that he accomplished thus far, and wish him all the best in his Olympic endeavors still to come.

RAISING AWARENESS FOR
ANGELMAN'S SYNDROME

HON. RANDY "DUKE" CUNNINGHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 17, 2000

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to discuss Angelman's Syndrome after a tragic circumstance in my district illustrated the need for greater awareness of this little known and often misunderstood disease.

Denise and Kyle Marx are parents of Nicholas, a ten-year-old boy with Angelman's Syndrome. Those familiar with special needs children know the demands, but also the tremendous blessings that Nicholas has bestowed on his family. Due to recent events, the need to better understand and treat this disorder has become obvious. Today, Nicholas is in a coma and has only a few months to live after being administered medication that caused an allergic reaction. This happened, in part, because those with Angelman's Syndrome are unable to communicate pain or discomfort and Nicolas was powerless to express the effects that the medication was having on his body. Today, I am asking Congress to make efforts to provide for research so that Angelman's Syndrome can be better understood and treated more effectively.

Angelman's Syndrome is a genetic disorder usually caused by a small deletion of molecules on the long arm of the fifteenth chromosome. In some rare cases, Angelman's can also be caused when a child inherits both long arms of the fifteenth chromosome from the father. The effects of this disease include speech impairment, with minimal or almost no

use of words, movement and balance disorder, including a stiff gait and tremulous movement of the limbs, behavioral uniqueness, including excitability, frequent laughter and smiling, flapping movements, and a short attention span. More than 80% of people with Angelman's Syndrome have a delayed or disproportionately slow growth in head circumference and seizures that begin around the age of three. Many other cases include symptoms such as hypopigmentation of the skin and eyes, sucking and swallowing disorders, wide mouth, hyperactive tendon reflexes, sensitivity to heat, and sleep disturbances.

One of the most difficult aspects of Angelman's Syndrome is that the disease is usually not recognized at birth. Diagnosis often does not occur until the child is between the ages of three and seven, when the characteristics become evident. Those with Angelman's Syndrome are born with a normal prenatal history and no major birth defects.

It was only 35 years ago that Dr. Harry Angelman, an English physician, diagnosed Angelman's Syndrome for the first time. The first reports of the disease in North America did not begin to appear until the 1980's. Until very recently, many doctors considered Angelman's Syndrome to be extremely rare and some even doubted its existence. Thankfully, through the Human Genome Project, we have been able to gain a better understanding of this disease. However, we still have a long way to go until we fully understand Angelman's Syndrome.

While we now know that Angelman's Syndrome affects anywhere between 1 in 10,000 and 1 in 30,000, we still have much to learn about the disease and its symptoms. Angelman's Syndrome is only diagnosed through genetic laboratory testing. However, it is often misdiagnosed and mistaken for autism. We need to work toward a better and more comprehensive understanding of the disease, its causes, and the best way to treat it. It is my hope that through research, we can come to understand and effectively treat Angelman's Syndrome and that the medical community will develop guidelines for treating patients with these conditions.

IN RECOGNITION OF JAMES FORSYTH—AN EXEMPLARY ACTIVIST

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 17, 2000

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, today I ask my colleagues to join me in paying recognition to a true progressive activist, Jim Forsyth. As Jim continues to fight tirelessly for labor, the environment, housing, seniors, and civil rights, he is an ever-present voice speaking out wherever there is injustice or human need.

Jim was born on July 14, 1927, Bastille Day in Brooklyn, New York. After graduating from Williams College, where he joined the progressive movement, Jim came to California's Bay Area to work on the assembly line in General Motors. Jim and his late wife Fran were the dutiful parents of five children.

Jim is a member of several progressive groups and organizations. He is proud to have been a part of the pro-union group, the Plant

Closure Project. Jim is secretary of the South Hayward Parish and was in charge of food distribution at the Parish for ten years. He distributed food every Saturday morning and most Wednesday. He is currently secretary of the Congress for Seniors handling mailing and developing flyers—many times at his own expense. Jim also lends his expertise to the California Consumers Health Care Council and the Californians for Justice. In 1967, Jim founded the Progressive Hayward Democratic Club and is the current newsletter editor. His other memberships include the Starr King Universal Unitarian Church, the Federation of Retired Union Members, and Vote Health.

Jim has been a long-time opponent of war as a means of solving economic or social problems. He began by speaking out against the Korean War and continued with the Vietnam War when Jim, Fran, and their children marched in numerous protests.

In all of these groups and activities for elections and social change, Jim Forsyth works tirelessly, willingly, and with enthusiasm. He is proud of his work. This is his life and his recreation. He feels responsible for attempting to make the world a better place for working people.

Jim's friends and colleagues will honor his work on October 19, 2000 at a public ceremony. I join his friends and admirers in thanking him for his years of service and I am proud that he has been my friend for several years.

HONORING MILT AND BETTE DOBKIN, HUMBOLDT COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 17, 2000

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Milt and Bette Dobkin, two extraordinary citizens of Humboldt County, CA, who have dedicated their lives to public service. They are being honored for their life-long contribution to one of the Nation's most precious rights—participation in the political system. Their actions on behalf of Representative Democracy are worthy of appreciation and recognition.

Bette Dobkin has taken on many roles throughout her years of service to the community. She has been an elementary school teacher, school board member, grand juror, and human rights, housing, and elections commissioner. She currently serves on the board of the Arcata Community Recycling Center and the North Coast Repertory Theater. In her career, she has brought distinction and honor to her profession. Bette has been selected as the "Realtor of the Year" by the Humboldt County Board of Realtors and selected as "Honorary Director for Life" by the California Association of Realtors.

Milt Dobkin has been a recognized leader of higher education in our community for many years. He served as the Vice President of Academic Affairs at Humboldt State University for 14 years before retiring. He is Professor Emeritus of Communication Studies and Vice President for Academic Affairs, Emeritus. Milt has served on many local board, including the

Humboldt Arts Council, Dell'Arte, Redwood Arts Council, and Humboldt Child Care Council. He is currently an elected member of the Redwoods Community College District Board of Trustees, Chairman of the Retired Public Employees Association and ably serves the California Faculty Association.

Both Milt and Bette Dobkin are being recognized this year for their outstanding contribution to the political process by the Humboldt County Democratic Central Committee as the "Democrats of the Year, 2000."

Mr. Speaker, it is appropriate at this time that we recognize Milt and Bette Dobkin for their unwavering commitment and compassion, and for their contribution to the ideals and traditions that have made America great.

TRIBUTE TO WORKING WARDROBES

HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 17, 2000

Ms. SANCHEZ. Mr. Speaker: Today, I rise to pay tribute to one of Orange County's outstanding community service groups, Working Wardrobes. Working Wardrobes is dedicated to assisting survivors of domestic violence achieve self-sufficiency in their lives.

Working Wardrobes began in 1990 when six Orange County business women decided to initiate a program which would help victims of domestic violence regain their dignity, integrity and self-respect. Over 60,000 women in Orange County are severely beaten each year as a result of domestic violence. This cycle of domestic violence also affects children who are 1,000 times more likely to become abusers themselves.

Through programs such as Career/Life Skills Workshops and Annual "Days of Self-Esteem", survivors are given the extra edge they need to be successful in their search for a career and the confidence needed to make changes in their lives.

Colleagues, please join with me today in recognizing Working Wardrobes for excellence in providing victims of domestic violence with educational programs that have given them a new beginning in life.

CELEBRATING TAIT, CALIFORNIA, 90TH BIRTHDAY

HON. WILLIAM M. THOMAS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 17, 2000

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. Speaker, I want to join my friends and constituents in the community of Taft, California in celebrating Taft's 90th birthday. On November 7th, Taft will be 90 years old and the town has come together to celebrate that fact as part of this year's Oildorado Days celebration, entitled "Blowout 2000". It is a proud celebration of the community's history and ties to the California oil industry.

Taft is an oil town, pure and simple. From the time of oil's discovery in the area in the 1860s, the area around this small western Kern County community has been the focus of

oil production. Some of the biggest producing fields in the lower 48 states are located around Taft, fields like Midway-Sunset, Cymric, the Belridge Fields, Buena Vista and Elk Hills. Kern County, California produces more oil than the State of Oklahoma and the people of Taft do much of the work that makes the county so very productive.

The Oildorado celebration Taft holds every five years is one way the community celebrates its link to energy production and lets its hair down—literally, since there is a beard growing contest. People who work hard producing energy get together to celebrate their commitment to a very tough trade. I hope my colleagues will join me in celebrating their pride in their work and in their town with them.

FUNDING FOR PUERTO RICO STATUS OPTIONS

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 17, 2000

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I was very pleased that the House passed FY 2001 Department of Transportation Appropriations bill which included the President's request of \$2.5 million to assist in public education on, and a public choice among, political status options for Puerto Rico. This request was first left out of the FY 2001 Treasury Appropriations bill but the Transportation Conference saw fit to restore this funding request during their negotiations.

Puerto Rico has been a part of the United States for more than a century. Over the course of this period, the Puerto Rican people have participated in our democracy. Their sons and daughters have fought our wars and their political leaders keep issues that affect Puerto Rico on the surface of our political discourse. Most importantly, the richness of their people and culture have become a part of what is good about America.

After gaining U.S. citizenship in 1917 and eventually adopting their own constitution to increase self-government, the people of Puerto Rico have consistently sought to fully express their political desires through self-determination. In the past 30 years, Puerto Rico has held three plebiscites to gauge the people's preference on a future political status.

Because of their current status, Congress is responsible for assisting Puerto Rico in their status efforts. In 1999, the House Resources Committee issued a bipartisan report that concluded Federal action is needed to establish a process for resolving Puerto Rico's status.

Congress has a responsibility to remain objective and work with the people of Puerto Rico about the status choices. We should ensure that any option put before the voters of Puerto Rico is acceptable to Congress and we should also make certain that the Puerto Rican electorate is well-informed and educated on what each option can mean to their future.

The funding made available to the President in the FY 2001 Department of Transportation bill is a good step toward assisting with any future plebiscite in Puerto Rico. Congress must now be truthful with the people of Puerto Rico on what their options are and in assuring

that Congress will stand by those decisions. We must remain mindful that the United States claimed Puerto Rico. There is no "us against them"—they are part of "us." Puerto Rico self-determination will happen and it is our responsibility that within that process we ensure that the residents of Puerto Rico are fully educated on each status option.

TRIBUTE TO CONGRESSMAN TOM BLILEY

SPEECH OF

HON. F. JAMES SENSENBRENNER, JR.

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 12, 2000

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to our distinguished colleague, the Chairman of the Commerce Committee, the gentleman from Virginia, Representative TOM BLILEY. TOM BLILEY has served his constituents in Virginia for over 30 years, both on the local and national levels. His dedication to public service has taken him from the Richmond City Council, to the position of Mayor of Richmond, and then to this House where he has risen to chair this body's oldest committee.

Throughout his legislative career, TOM BLILEY has accumulated a list of accomplishments most of us can barely imagine. For the last six years, he has led one of the most successful, efficient, and constructive committees in Congress. He oversaw passage of the Telecommunications Act of 1996, which brought fairness, competition, and increased consumer choice to the industry. He led the charge to override President Clinton's veto of the Contract with America, at the same time overhauling and reforming the nation's securities laws. Finally, TOM BLILEY led the effort needed to pass the Mammography Standard Act of 1998, life-saving legislation that will ensure the quality of many women's lives for years to come.

These are only a few of the legislative accomplishments we attribute to our colleague from Virginia. They illustrate his commitment to sound fiscal principles, a balanced budget, increased opportunities for individuals and small business owners, and common sense government. More importantly, they are among the reasons that TOM BLILEY's constituents know that they can count on him to look after their best interests.

I know I join TOM BLILEY's many friends in Virginia's Seventh Congressional District, as well as his many friends and colleagues here in the House, in wishing him the best in the years to come. He has served us well, and we will all miss the dedication and leadership he brought to his work.

TRIBUTE TO GWEN SESSIONS

HON. JOHN T. DOOLITTLE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 17, 2000

Mr. DOOLITTLE. Mr. Speaker, today, I stand to recognize an outstanding public serv-

ant in my district. She is a woman who has dedicated her life to not only raising her own four children, but also teaching and nurturing many small children in her community. I wish to recognize my good personal friend Gwen Sessions who was recently named Elementary School Teacher of the Year in the Rocklin Unified School District.

As a kindergarten teacher at Antelope Creek Elementary School, Gwen has touched countless lives for good, both directly and indirectly. She has contributed many hours of behind-the-scenes work by participating in numerous district and school site committees. More importantly, she has earned praise from students, parents, and colleagues for her inspirational style of teaching. She sets clear boundaries for the children and reinforces positive behavior through praise. She is also known for maintaining a well organized yet stimulating classroom that is full of color. In fact, one of her fellow teachers has said, "Her room is a learning lab which exudes personal enthusiasm and warmth. She has an ability to motivate students beyond their natural abilities and helps them reach their greatest potential." As a testament to Mrs. Sessions' involved approach to teaching, one parent has said, "It is not uncommon to find Mrs. Sessions with red painted hands, bright colored clothes, and tiny little hands embraced around her."

The first evidence of what Gwen is doing right is found in the fact that she has one of the largest Parent Volunteer programs at the school every year. High school students, parents, and grandparents enjoy volunteering in her classroom because she makes them feel rewarded for helping out.

In addition to getting involved, many parents have also voiced their appreciation for the excellent way in which Gwen Sessions educates their children. Said one student's mother, "It's always scary turning your child over to their first teacher. It didn't take long, however, for our family to learn to completely trust, respect, and appreciate Mrs. Sessions for all her wonderful gifts she has to offer." Remarkable another mother, "The first time I entered Mrs. Sessions kindergarten classroom I know my daughter was in the best hands possible." One parent and long-time instructional aide puts it this way, "I feel her empathy with people and her desire to inspire others has made the difference in countless lives. She puts her heart and soul into her daily task of making the beginnings of our children's many years in school a joy."

As a final and perhaps supreme tribute, another mother has said, "She makes learning exciting and brings even the shyest of children out of their shell. . . . I know we will look back in years to come and say, This teacher made a difference between success and failure."

Congress has made improving education a top priority. As we continue searching for ways to better the educational system, we need to look at the positive things happening in schools across the country. I believe that Gwen Sessions is an excellent example of what is right with America's schools.

To my friend Gwen Sessions, the Rocklin Unified School District Elementary School Teacher of the Year, I say, "Thank you and congratulations on a job well done! Keep up the good work."

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL LEARNING DISABILITIES MONTH AND THE NATIONAL CENTER FOR LEARNING DISABILITIES

HON. ANNE M. NORTHUP

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 17, 2000

Mrs. NORTHUP. Mr. Speaker, for millions of children with learning disabilities in this country, the future is brighter than any other time in this nation's history. That's because we know today what works for children learning to read. This is important because 90 percent of children with learning disabilities have difficulty with reading.

Learning disabilities, or LD, are neurological disorders that affect people's ability to read, write, compute and participate fully in society. The good news is that if LD is identified early, before the age of nine, the majority of children can work up to their potential. Without early detection, the statistics are sobering.

Thirty-five percent of students identified with learning disabilities drop out of high school.

Fifty percent of juvenile delinquents tested were found to have undetected LD. When offered remedial services, their recidivism rates dropped to below 2 percent.

According to the Office of the Inspector General, learning disabilities and substance abuse are the most common impediments to keeping welfare recipients from becoming and remaining employed.

I have been working with learning disabilities issues in Congress for many years, from identifying educational needs, to calling for additional resources and promoting national policies that take into account the concerns of people with LD.

Important progress has been achieved over the last two decades in identifying and treating children with learning disabilities. This is critical, because our nation is in the grip of a monumental and global change. As opposed to previous generations when the United States was primarily an agricultural and manufacturing-based country, our brave new world of technology has elevated information processing as a required skill in today's workers. And the future will only demand more information technology workers across every profession as the global community expands and competition for enterprise increases.

This is why early identification of children with reading problems, and applying proven strategies to enable them to read, is fundamental to the future success of this great country's economy. More importantly, it is essential for the success of our children and our children's self esteem.

Today, in recognition of National Learning Disabilities Month, the National Center for Learning Disabilities is launching a new initiative aimed at beginning readers. The "Get Ready to Read" program will assess the reading progress of children ages four to five. It will target those at risk for reading failure and provide enrichment activities to strengthen their skills. Parents, teachers, and pediatricians will be involved in creating a "constellation of care" around a child, effectively making sure that early on, before the cycle failure and defeat wreaks its damage, that the child is provided help. And you, no doubt, will hear from your constituents as this program pro-

gresses, because an important component of "Get Ready to Read" is for parents and others to keep their legislators apprised of issues affecting young children with reading problems.

Reading is a basic building block in participating fully in society. In this country of opportunity and promise, we owe it to our children to make sure they learn to read, and read well. I applaud this effort by the National Center for Learning Disabilities to help our youngest Americans to hope, to learn and to succeed.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 4205,
FLOYD D. SPENCE NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2001

SPEECH OF

HON. BOB RILEY

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 11, 2000

Mr. RILEY. Mr. Speaker, last year's Defense Appropriations Act (FY 00) contained \$10 million for the specific purpose of improving the safeguards for storing classified material held by Department of Defense contractors. It is with deep regret that I must report that the Pentagon refused to release these funds which expired on September 30, 2000. The Assistant Secretary of Defense for Command, Control, Communications and Information, Arthur Money, sent me and a number of other House and Senate members a letter on why the Pentagon chose to ignore the direction of Congress.

Mr. Speaker, beyond the fact that the Clinton/Gore Administration defied the law, their rationale for not complying with a federal security standard is troubling and their basis unfounded. First, on the issue of cost, DOD claims that upgrading existing security containers controlled by contractors by replacing old vulnerable mechanical locks with electronic locks that meet minimum federal security standards (FFL-2740A) would be cost prohibitive. The referenced report of the Joint Security Commission II sites an industry estimate from five contractors that is based on an inflated retail price of the electronic lock which is popularly called the "X07" or "X08" lock, rather than the wholesale price which would be the price of the lock in this upgrade program. This is not the first time that DOD has overestimated the cost of the program in an effort to resist implementation. In 1993, DOD grossly overestimated the cost of upgrading its own mechanical locks at \$500 million, but the internal upgrade only actually cost \$59 million. Based on the number of classified containers held by defense contractors, a lock upgrade program would cost between \$45 million and \$60 million, depending upon how the program was managed.

Secondly, on the issue of threat Mr. Speaker, the physical security threat to classified materials that exists with these 1950's vintage mechanical locks cannot be overstated. The threat is why the GSA established a federal standard in 1989 that requires locks on secure containers to withstand an attempt of twenty man-hours of surreptitious entry. Currently, an "insider" or foreign agent with readily available technology can determine the combination of a mechanical lock in a matter of minutes.

Since this "safe cracking" can be done without detection on a mechanical lock, no one would ever know that an "insider" possessed the combination to access classified information including sensitive computer hard drives, laptops and access codes. To combat this problem, all new secure containers are fitted with the X08 lock (the only lock that meets the federal standard), but there are still thousands of mechanical lock containers and, worse yet, bar-locked file cabinets that are being used by contractors to protect our nation's classified information. Until all existing secure containers are upgraded with modern electronic locks, gaping security lapses will continue. No perimeter security apparatus involving guns, gates, guards, alarms, check points and other physical security barriers will protect against the "insider" threat to antiquated mechanical locks.

The Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA) has identified 27 foreign intelligence organizations that have the capability to penetrate these old mechanical locks without leaving a visible trace. These espionage organizations would likely use "insider" agents for this purpose. In fact, Mr. Money's view that the "insider" threat is of greater concern than the threat of covert entry to a safe or vault is precisely why the electronic lock upgrade is needed. The X07/X08 lock now possesses features that help ensure accountability and control access. More importantly, the lock also has the capability to be equipped with a time/date stamp feature which would automatically record who entered the safe and when. This audit trail feature is already used with great success by large corporations. By adding this feature to the federal requirements, we add another important counter espionage tool to this virtually impenetrable lock.

I certainly understand the many competing interests that DOD must juggle within a constrained budget, but I cannot accept the Pentagon's view of contractor lock upgrades as being unnecessary, cost prohibitive or without commensurate security benefit. The growing volumes of classified information contained in moveable media (i.e. laptop computers, hard drives, back-up tapes, etc.) that is used by the national security agencies and their contractors, and the need to properly secure this classified material, cannot be pushed aside as a trivial matter. If the Department of Defense shows leadership in the proper handling of classified material, I'm certain that government and contractor employees will take a more serious attitude toward the proper stewardship of the Nation's secrets. The United States cannot afford another security lapse like the missing NEST hard drives at Los Alamos or the missing laptops at the State Department.

INTRODUCTION OF THE INTERNET
PRESCRIPTION DRUG CONSUMER
PROTECTION ACT OF 2000

HON. TOM BLILEY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 17, 2000

Mr. BLILEY. Mr. Speaker, today, I am introducing bipartisan legislation to help protect consumers from sham sales of prescription drugs over the Internet. Oversight hearings held earlier this year in the Committee on

Commerce exposed real problems for consumers. Unscrupulous tactics by some sellers using the Internet must be stopped. The bill is focused on one objective—to allow folks to use the Internet as a useful tool for legitimate sales of prescription drugs.

The bill will do a number of things to enhance protection. First, the bill requires interstate Internet sellers of prescription drugs to disclose important information on their web sites and to State licensing boards. This will improve the reliability of consumer transactions and make it easier for State and Federal enforcement officials to patrol for illegal sellers.

Second, the bill enhances the authority of State attorneys general to seek injunctions against interstate Internet sellers that violate disclosure requirements or certain provisions of the Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act.

Third, the bill enhances Federal authority to restrain the disposal of property that is traceable to certain provisions of the act.

Finally, the bill provides for public education about the dangers of unscrupulous Internet prescription drug sellers who fail to follow the law.

Senators JEFFORDS and KENNEDY are introducing an identical companion bill in the other body. This bipartisan legislation has the support of the National Association of Attorneys General, the American Pharmaceutical Association, the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists, the National Consumer League, and Drugstore.com.

I ask my colleagues to support this important measure.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY AND CONGRATULATIONS FOR A LIFETIME OF SERVICE TO MABEL GRIFFITH LEGG ON THE OCCASION OF HER 100TH BIRTHDAY

HON. CHET EDWARDS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 17, 2000

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Mabel Griffith Legg on her 100th birthday and to thank her for becoming a teacher and sharing her life with countless numbers of students during her career. She was born October 6, 1900 on a farm near Athens, Texas and graduated from Palestine High School.

Mabel Legg moved to Waco, Texas, in my Central Texas congressional district, in the 1920s. She passed the teacher certification test during her junior year of high school and later earned her bachelor and master of arts degrees from Baylor University. She taught high school English and directed plays for 26 years at the Waco State Home and for another 14 years at La Vega High School. Through her inspiration many hundreds of her students have made significant contributions to our nation and humanity. She has been a longtime member of Highland Baptist Church where she taught Sunday school for 25 years and where she is still active in Sunday school and Bible study.

I ask members to join me in honoring Mabel Griffith Legg for devoting her lifetime to teaching others and to congratulate her on her 100th birthday. Congratulations and happy birthday, Ms. Legg.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 4205, FLOYD D. SPENCE NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2001

SPEECH OF

HON. MARSHALL "MARK" SANFORD

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 11, 2000

Mr. SANFORD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 4205, the Floyd Spence National Defense Authorization Act. It might strike some as odd that I support the Authorization conference report after I opposed the Appropriations bill, and I wanted to spell out why.

Admittedly, I have some disappointment with parts of H.R. 4205:

Base Realignment and Closure Commission—H.R. 4205 does not include funding for two new BRAC rounds, despite the fact that the pentagon has estimated it has an excess base capacity of 23 percent. CBO estimates that two new BRAC rounds would save the Defense Department \$4.7 billion by 2010, and that after completion in 2012, DOD could realize recurring savings of about \$4 billion per year which could then be re-channeled toward better training, readiness and quality of life initiatives. It is my hope that Congress sees fit to include a Base Closure round in next year's bill.

Choice of Aircraft—H.R. 4205 includes funding for research, development and procurement of three different fighter planes (the Navy's F-18 E/F, The Air Force F-22, and the Navy & Air Force Joint Strike Fighter) when there is not a strong consensus that all three fighters are necessary. Some defense experts say the military needs the F-18 and F-22. Some say it needs the JSF instead. Congress' answer is simply to fund all of the fighter planes in question, at the expense of other aircraft (specifically bombers and unmanned aerial aircraft [UAVs]) that, while less glamorous, could prove more useful, while costing much less money and American lives.

Colombia—I have deep reservations about the decision to drop a provision in the House-passed bill that would establish a limit of 500 on the number of U.S. military personnel authorized to be on duty in the Republic of Colombia at any one time. I think that it would be a serious mistake for the U.S. to allow itself to get involved in a civil war in Colombia.

But the conference report does include some very important items:

Health Care Improvement—There are thousands of military retirees in the First District of South Carolina. Each of these retirees was once either a draftee or a recruit. They did their duty with the understanding that after 20 years of service, they were to have access to quality health care when they retired, and that that access would continue for the rest of their lives. That has not been the case. The Defense conference report extends Tricare to military retirees beyond age 65 as a supplement to Medicare. It is my hope that eventually Congress may move to a voucher system, in which the government ensures that vets get the care they deserve, without the accompanying bureaucracy and waiting periods. Any military retiree could simply get health care at the facility of their choice, and then be reimbursed.

Readiness Funding—I'm concerned about the Administration's lack of a coherent national defense strategy. Our men and women in uniform have been dispatched across the globe in peacekeeping and humanitarian operations that are not in the national interest. This is wearing out our soldiers and equipment. Aircraft mission capability rates have declined, spare parts shortages continue, and recruiting and retention of quality personnel has become a major challenge. These problems have left the military less prepared to defend national interests. The conference report to H.R. 4205 provides an additional \$1.2 billion for critical readiness funding. I would prefer that Congress and the President turn away from trying to be the world's policeman. But if the Administration insists on dispatching troops across the globe, then Congress must ensure that these troops are at least prepared to carry out the mission.

I might have done things a little differently, but I think that the country's soldiers and military retirees have some serious problems, and the gentleman from South Carolina and his committee have made an honest effort to address those problems. On balance, H.R. 4205 is a fair attempt at assessing and meeting the country's defense needs. I find it disturbing that the Defense Appropriations Act looks so different. There are many unauthorized items in the Appropriations bill, that at least appear more directed toward ensuring victory at the ballot box, rather than on the battlefield.

I choose to base my national security votes on national priorities. Therefore, I support the Defense Authorization Conference Report, but oppose the Defense Appropriations bill.

IN MEMORY OF FREDERICK DEBARROS OF NORWICH, CONNECTICUT

HON. SAM GEJDENSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 17, 2000

Mr. GEJDENSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in memory of Frederick DeBarros of Norwich, CT. Mr. DeBarros was a life-long resident of Norwich and gave so much to his community over more than eight decades.

Mr. DeBarros was born in Norwich in March 1914 and attended public schools in the community. He worked for Sears and as a custodian with the Norwich school system until his retirement in 1993. He was also an elder of the Easter Pequot Tribe.

Mr. DeBarros will be remembered by many in the community as a tremendous athlete and an avid sports fan. As a young man, he played for the A.C. Softball Team while later in life he served as an umpire in the Norwich City League. The community has recognized his many athletic accomplishments by including him in the Norwich Sports Hall of Fame. Mr. DeBarros was also a lifetime member of the Sportsmen Athletic Club of Norwich. I am told that he was an intense Yankees fan.

Mr. Speaker, Frederick DeBarros was devoted to his family and his community throughout his long life. I join with his neighbors in offering my condolences to his family and the Eastern Pequot Tribe. We can take comfort in knowing that Mr. DeBarros' memory will live on in Norwich through his many achievements

on the field of play and his service to the community.

IN MEMORY OF THE LATE GOVERNOR OF MISSOURI GOVERNOR MEL CARNAHAN

HON. RICHARD A. GEPHARDT

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 17, 2000

Mr. GEPHARDT. Mr. Speaker, fate seems especially cruel when wonderful people are taken away in the prime of life, and the death of Governor Carnahan is just such a tragedy. Words alone do not fully describe the sorrow Jane and I and all Missourians feel at the loss of our Governor.

Mel Carnahan was a good man. He was a decent, caring man. He loved his state, and he fought hard for every person in it. A man who considered public service a high calling, Mel had a quiet, humble demeanor and his commitment to families in Missouri made a difference in the lives of millions of people.

A beloved governor, the son of two teachers in the Ozark mountains, Mel worked hard day after day to give every child a chance in life. He was committed to education with a sincere passion.

We extend our deepest sympathy to Mel's wife Jean and their three surviving children; our thoughts and prayers are with them at this difficult moment. Missouri has lost a giant, and, humbly, we will work to ensure that Mel's wonderful, positive, humane spirit lives on in all our lives.

MCDONALD'S CORPORATION—EPA WASTE WISE PARTNER OF THE YEAR, OCTOBER 17, 2000

HON. JUDY BIGGERT

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 17, 2000

Mrs. BIGGERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the McDonald's Corporation for its exemplary leadership in environmental conservation. McDonald's has been a pioneer in a range of efforts to conserve energy, protect natural resources, and reduce solid waste.

In the past, the Corporation has been honored for its conservation work by major environmental organizations, including the Council on Environmental Quality and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). As a result of its comprehensive waste reduction program, McDonald's has received further recognition for its efforts in this area by recently receiving the EPA's prestigious Waste Wise Partner of the Year award.

In 1989, McDonald's partnered with the Environmental Defense Fund (EDF) to develop a comprehensive action plan for reducing waste. This cooperative project laid the foundation for a new approach to solving environmental problems. It served as a model for additional EDF alliances with leading U.S. businesses and also as a catalyst for other corporate/environmental organization partnerships.

The following year, McDonald's established one of the first corporate "buy recycle" programs. The Company also initiated an ongoing

series of environmentally friendly changes in packaging design that continues to this day. In 1992, McDonald's enrolled in EPA's Green Lights program to institutionalize the use of energy efficient lighting and, in 1994, became the very first partner in the EPA WasteWise program.

The impact of these commitments and partnerships has been extraordinary. During the course of the 1990's, McDonald's: Eliminated 297 million pounds of packaging; Recycled 2 billion pounds of corrugated cardboard, thus reducing restaurant waste by 30 percent; Purchased over \$3 billion worth of products made from recycled materials—over 300,000 tons in 1999 alone; and Saved over 510 million kilowatt hours, the equivalent of all the energy used by 14,500 homes over ten years.

These impressive numbers do not tell the whole story. By entering into these partnerships, McDonald's is proving that commitment to the environment and core business interests can go hand in hand. In so doing, they are helping to bring about a new environmental ethic and, in a broader sense, the growth of corporate social responsibility.

The Waste Wise award is an appropriate recognition for such leadership and for McDonald's sustained, effective commitment to making the world a better place. I congratulate the McDonald's corporation and its employees for this outstanding achievement.

IN TRIBUTE TO THE LATE REPRESENTATIVE SIDNEY YATES

HON. JERROLD NADLER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 17, 2000

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to my friend and colleague, the late Congressman Sidney Yates, who passed away earlier this month. Sid Yates represented the Ninth District of Illinois for close to 50 years with great distinction. He was a man of vision who will be remembered most for his dedication to defending and promoting the arts in America.

Throughout his career, Sid Yates made Federal funding of the arts a priority. He helped push for the legislation establishing the National Endowment for the Arts and worked to steadily increase its budget as chairman of the Interior Appropriations Subcommittee. When the NEA came under attack in 1995, it was Sid Yates who helped lead our efforts to preserve. I was proud to stand with Sid as his passionate and eloquent defense of the NEA and of government's role in the arts helped stave off its elimination.

We mourn his passing, but we should celebrate the many contributions he made to this Chamber. The arts community, in particular, has lost one of its great champions, but his memory will live on in the smiles of the young people who will be introduced to the arts thanks to the efforts of Sidney Yates. I speak for all of those who care deeply about the arts in this country when I say that he will be greatly missed, but will never be forgotten.

CONGRATULATING SOUTH KOREAN PRESIDENT KIM DAE JUNG FOR WINNING THE NOBEL PEACE PRIZE

HON. THOMAS M. DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 17, 2000

Mr. DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate South Korean President Kim Dae Jung for winning the Nobel Peace Prize. The Nobel Committee announced the decision to award President Kim based on his "moral strength" to pursue democratic goals despite repeated threats on his life and long periods in exile.

The Committee awarded President Kim with the Nobel Prize not only for his work in bringing democracy to South Korea, but for his efforts to reconcile South Korea with North Korea. To facilitate that goal, President Kim established the "Sunshine Policy" in an attempt to overcome more than fifty years of war and hostility between the two Korean nations. President Kim has said that his struggle against dictatorship was the greater achievement in his life. "Democracy is most important. Only when we uphold human rights and freedom, is our struggle against communism meaningful," said President Kim.

Born on December 3, 1925, President Kim was the second son of four. His father was a farmer on an island in the southwestern province of Cholla. President Kim was a good student and elected a leader of his high school class. However, he learned an early lesson about democracy when he was stripped of his position, after he published an essay condemning the Japanese colonial government that controlled Korea at that time. It would be the first of many sacrifices President Kim would make before being elected to lead South Korea.

Prior to being elected, President Kim was jailed repeatedly by the government of South Korea. He has been placed under house arrest more than 55 times, and has survived many assassination attempts. He has been kidnapped by South Korean agents, sentenced to death by a military court for alleged treason following prodemocracy demonstrations, lived in exile in the United States, and returned to South Korea, before winning the Presidency in 1997.

President Kim was credited with bringing South Korea back from the verge of financial collapse just a few years ago. He committed the country to strict reforms requested by the International Monetary Fund and by doing so, the South Korean economy has made significant strides in less than two years.

President Kim's Sunshine Policy to engage North Korea has produced dramatic, historical results. On June 13 of this year, President Kim traveled to Pyongyang to meet with North Korean President Kim Jon Il. The summit opened the way for the first reunion between Korean family members, who had been separated by the Korean war and had not seen one another in 50 years.

President Kim's personal courage and moral character are his foundation in times of adversity; and they have inspired generations of Koreans to keep their faith in freedom. As the Washington Post put it, "He helped prove that freedom is a universal value and democracy a

universal desire, not limited by race, continent, or culture." I join my Korean-American constituents in congratulating President Kim on receiving the Nobel Peace Prize for the year 2000.

ARLINGTON TRADITIONAL SCHOOL

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 17, 2000

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend the parents, students and administrators at Arlington Traditional School. I will be pleased to welcome the students and teachers of this extraordinary school to the Capitol on Thursday, October 19, 2000.

For the last 15 years this school has sponsored an extraordinary summer reading and civics program for its students.

The Reading Challenge was started by its first principal, Dr. Frank Miller, who once spent the day on the roof of the school as a reward to the students for meeting their reading challenge.

Since then, the challenge has grown under the leadership of its present principal, Ms. Holly Hawthorne.

Mr. Speaker, the summer challenge program is based around themes including: "Reading Around the Library," to learn more about the different kinds of books in the library; "Read For the Gold," based on the Summer Olympics; "Reading Around the World in Eight Days," to learn about world geography; "Blast Off to Learning," that included a tour of the planets; "Reading Is Monumental," to learn about important places in Washington, DC and Virginia; and "From Sea to Shining Sea," to learn about the fifty states.

The reward for the students' reading accomplishments has evolved into a celebration of reading known as Reading Carnival Day. Activities have included special events in each classroom, school wide parades, and special guest speakers.

Over the years, the entire school has visited the public library and the Education Center where special guests read their favorite books to the students. In addition, a school-wide field trip was taken to the Air and Space Museum and to Mount Vernon for Colonial Days. These experiences undoubtedly enhance the interactive learning process for students beyond compare.

Mr. Speaker, I take great pride in commending the Arlington Traditional School for its many accomplishments over the past 15 years.

It is through their efforts that the prospect for the future is much brighter.

RECOGNIZING CATHEDRAL HIGH SCHOOL IN EL PASO, TEXAS ON THEIR 75TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. SILVESTRE REYES

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 17, 2000

Mr. REYES. Mr. Speaker, I am proud of a high school in my district that continues to

show exemplarily results in education. Cathedral High School has a long standing tradition of excellence in El Paso, Texas. The school never falters in its steadfast commitment to teaching and to spiritually guiding young men as they prepare for higher education and for life's many challenges.

Through the vision and dedicated efforts of Bishop Anthony Schuler, the Rev. Robert O'Loughran, and Mr. William Fryer, the Christian Brothers established Cathedral High School in September of 1925. Cathedral High School has withstood the trials of the Great Depression, four wars, changing economic, political, and social conditions and has come out with ever increasing strength. Over 4,300 young men have graduated from Cathedral since 1927. It is a school that is emulated by other schools across the city, state, and even the nation. Over 95% of the Cathedral's students go on to colleges and universities.

The staff of Cathedral High School, both the Christian Brothers and the lay faculty, who's commitment and dedication play an integral part in the Cathedral educational experience, should be commended. Their efforts have contributed to the long-term viability of the school.

While accepting students of all faiths, as a Roman Catholic school, Cathedral's curriculum instills the Catholic heritage and stresses reverence for God, concern for others and personal responsibility. As much as any other aspect of the school, the spiritual emphasis at Cathedral fosters an atmosphere of brotherhood and caring and builds the foundation for life-long friendships. Spirituality, as a guiding principal, should be emulated across our nation. The values that are instilled at Cathedral are fundamental values that are central and important to the functioning of society as a whole.

Daily school prayer, religion classes, and school Mass emphasize God's central role in our lives. As a Catholic myself, God and reverence are personally important to me and I appreciate the commitment that Cathedral makes in insuring that our students will have faith and prayer in their lives. I cannot overstate how important faith in God is to overall success and happiness in life.

Cathedral has continually exhibited strong leadership; a clear vision and sense of mission that is shared by and connected with the school, students, parents, and alumni; high quality teaching; and a safe environment for learning. Cathedral has continually been a pillar of excellence in El Paso. I applaud the role that Cathedral High School plays in the fabric of our culturally diverse community and I wish the school continued success in their next 75 years of teaching excellence in the city of El Paso. Go Fighting Irish!

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MICHAEL G. OXLEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 17, 2000

Mr. OXLEY. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent from the House chamber for the day of Thursday, October 12th.

CONGRATULATING THE SAN LUIS OBISPO SYMPHONY'S CUARTETO DE LAS MISIONES ON THEIR PERFORMANCE AT THE KENNEDY CENTER IN WASHINGTON, D.C.

HON. LOIS CAPPS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 17, 2000

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, I honor the San Luis Obispo Symphony String Quartet, Cuarteto de las Misiones who have traveled from San Luis Obispo, California to perform tonight at the Kennedy Center's Millennium Stage State Days Series. The Cuarteto is Sharon Holland, Ginette Reitz, Mary Houston, and Ken Hustad.

I had the privilege of nominating the Cuarteto to represent the great state of California for the Kennedy Center's program because they have demonstrated a wonderful commitment to their community, a unique sound, and inspiring talent.

The San Luis Obispo String Quartet has been performing at Central Coast schools for over a decade. Last Spring, the quartet was reorganized and renamed the Cuarteto de las Misiones and began working with local Grammy-nominated composer, musicologist and California Polytechnic State University music professor Dr. Craig Russell to design an in-school program for 3rd and 4th graders.

Dr. Russell has devoted the past several years to uncovering a wealth of music originally performed in California and Mexico during the colonial days. Through his discoveries, he has been able to demonstrate that there was a far richer musical life on the West Coast of the United States than was previously thought. Thanks to Dr. Russell, works by European immigrants to California and Mexico, once performed by the Chumash and Salinan people are being performed again after 200 years of silence.

Cuarteto de las Misiones presents a narrated musical journey comparing the unique styles of mid-18th Century western culture. The quartet's performance this evening will include Dr. Russell's arrangements of the newly rediscovered music of the missions, mountain music and reels of the eastern United States and the chamber music enjoyed in Europe's finest salons.

Mr. Speaker, this exciting new program has not only sparked my interest, but has received notice from the California Arts Council and has become part of their "Rural and Inner City Presenting Program" (RICP). They are a fine example for the community and I am proud to be their Representative.

I would like to give thanks to the San Luis Obispo County Community Foundation and the Hock Family Foundation for their generous support of the Cuarteto de las Misiones, and to the ensemble itself for their invaluable contribution to the Central Coast.

THE STEENS MOUNTAIN COOPERATIVE MANAGEMENT AND PROTECTION ACT OF 2000

HON. GREG WALDEN

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 17, 2000

Mr. WALDEN of Oregon. Mr. Speaker, I would like to share with my colleagues two letters I received concerning the Steens Mountain Cooperative Management and Protection Act of 2000 (H.R. 4828) that was debated on the House Floor on October 4, 2000.

House Resolution 4828 was supported by the entire Oregon congressional delegation and is the product of a long and hard-fought battle to ensure that there was an Oregon solution to an Oregon issue. I submit the following letters into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

THE WILDERNESS SOCIETY'S
WILDERNESS SUPPORT CENTER

DEAR CONGRESSMAN WALDEN: Although this bill does not contain everything we wanted, we believe that this is a responsible resolution of a very important issue. This bill will grant lasting protection for the wildlands, wildlife, and waters of the magnificent Steens Mountain region. We support its passage today.

BART KOEHLER,
Director.

Recreation Service Providers on Steens Mountain—

The outfitting and guiding industry has been in existence on a small scale and in a variety of ways on Steens Mountain since the early days of trappers and military scouts. From the early 1900's until the early 1960's outfitters, particularly homesteader Chester Nye and partner Paul Howard, primarily offered hunting and fishing trips to the very wealthy into the inaccessible backcountry of the Steens. The completion of the Steens Mountain Loop Road opened up all of the hunting areas that Nye and Howard depended upon for their enterprise and consequently put them out of business. Shortly after during the mid-1970's, the homestead known as the Nye Place consisting of several guest cabins and a cookhouse on the rim of the Little Blitzen Gorge and which Nye and Howard had used was taken over by Velty Pruitt and his summer camp for girls.

From that time until now, outfitters and guides, otherwise known as recreational service providers, have continually modified the services they offer based on the needs and demands of the outfitted public using Steens Mountain. Currently, Steens Mountain has eight permitted outfitters operating on both public and private lands providing a wide range of recreational services. These current and historical uses include: cross-country high-altitude running training, big game hunting, upland bird hunting, fishing and heli-fishing, multiple day horse packing, trail riding, multiple day llama packing, backpacking, day hiking, mountain biking, ATV touring, van/pickup tours, snowmobiling, cross-country and backcountry skiing with and without motorized support (snow machine or helicopter), snow shoeing, and snowcat touring. With all of these activities, many service providers include interpretive and educational information to their programs, and/or use these various modes of transportation or travel to provide interpretive and educational services. Additionally, a number of the permitted recreation service providers have historically con-

ducted activities on private lands that may be transferred into public ownership through this legislation. All of these uses are considered current and historical uses and fall under the purpose of promoting viable recreation operations on Steens Mountain.

It should be noted that while there are thousands of places to go in the United States to engage in outdoor recreation, Steens Mountain is a unique natural attraction and is the chosen vacation destination for nearly 100 percent of the 56,000 people currently coming to the region. In fact beginning in 1975, the Bureau of Land Management began tracking visitor numbers of those using the Steens Mountain Loop Road. These visitor numbers have increased over 278 percent since 1975, and with a new designation will likely continue to increase. There will no doubt be a corresponding growth in the numbers of the outfitted public seeking experiences with the permitted recreation service providers on the Steens. As part of ensuring the viability of the recreation operations on Steens Mountain which is a purpose of this legislation, these permitted recreation service providers should be allowed to meet the growth and additional needs of the outfitted public within the current and historic activities they provide.

Further most outfitters, pre-legislation, have invested a great deal into their recreation service operations and public land permits to provide services to the public. Some of the investments are recent and substantial. Because of this the operators may not have had time to realize a return on these investments. One example of this, and there are many, is Steens Mountain Packers helicopter supported activities particularly the backcountry ski heli-supported program. A great deal of time and money went into the exploration of the Steens to provide a compatible and safe service to the public. The legislation, designation and future management thereof may terminate the operators opportunity to recoup investments with the possible termination of the activity within a given area, such as wilderness. In staying in conformance with the purpose of the Act, the operator should be appropriately compensated for the loss of revenue from the activity, or exchanged for a reasonable like permit. Because of the uniqueness of the area, a like opportunity may be difficult to provide. It should be noted that an opportunity or permit entirely outside of the area may well not be considered a reasonable option (e.g.—a permit in Catlow Valley would not necessarily be a reasonable alternative to an existing permit within the Blitzen Gorge, nor a permit in Idaho as an alternative to a permit on Steens Mountain.).

JOHN AND CINDY WITZEL
Frenchglen, Oregon.

CELEBRATING THE BIRTHDAY OF
NANCY LONG

HON. CONSTANCE A. MORELLA

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 17, 2000

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, I honor my constituent, Nancy Long, on the occasion of her seventy-second birthday. Nancy Long has been continuously dedicated to community and civic service for, perhaps, longer than anyone in Glen Echo and Montgomery County, Maryland. Ms. Long was first elected to the Glen Echo Town Council in 1969, and re-elected every four years thereafter.

Early on, she was appointed as Town liaison to the National Park Service for the C&O

Canal National Historical Park, Glen Echo Park, Clara Barton Historic Site, and the George Washington Memorial Parkway. Her efforts have been and continue to be tireless in the pursuit of preservation of the Park, conservation of the Canal, and protection of the Town's environs.

Ms. Long has been a volunteer at Glen Echo Park since 1970 and, in 1986, became one of three original founders of the Glen Echo Park Foundation. She has been re-elected to that Board each term since its inception. She organized and directed a successful fund raising campaign to save the Park's beloved Dentzel Carousel, which today is enjoyed by children and adults. This historic artifact is admired by preservationists for its spectacular and painstaking restoration work. The attention to preserving the Park and the existence of the Carousel today, is in no small measure to Nancy's tireless efforts. Her work continues on the Montgomery County Glen Echo Park Working Group, which has been studying the future of the Park and its cultural and arts programs.

In 1975, Ms. Long was selected by then Congressman Gilbert Gude as one of 25 individuals to travel the entire length of the C&O Canal to call attention to the Canal's importance and need for the preservation and conservation of its resources. She is currently one of two Montgomery County representatives to the C&O Canal National Historical Park Advisory Commission. Nancy Long has walked the 184 mile length of the Canal four times, the latest trek occurring in the spring of 2000.

Ms. Long has also served extensively on other boards and commissions. Just a few additional posts on which she served, are: Potomac Valley League, the Montgomery County Committee of the Maryland Historical Trust, and the Potomac River Basin Consortium.

Ms. Long's 72nd birthday will be celebrated by her friends and Glen Echo neighbors today, October 17, 2000. I am proud that she expects to continue her work on behalf of community, conservation, and preservation.

TRIBUTE TO ERNEST T. DIERKING,
U.S. FOREST SERVICE DIRECTOR
OF LANDS AND MINERALS

HON. JERRY LEWIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 17, 2000

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Speaker, when the millions of people who live in Southern California want to escape our perpetual summer for a little winter fun or cool mountain breezes, we head to a refuge thousands of feet above and a world away from the beaches that are our trademark. Just an hour from those beaches lies the San Bernardino National Forest, which today provides thousands of acres of recreational splendor thanks largely to the efforts of one dedicated public servant: Ernest T. Dierking.

Ernest Dierking began his career with the U.S. Forest Service in June 1958, and has dedicated the last 22 years to expanding the San Bernardino National Forest and making sure the pines and mountain vistas are preserved for an appreciative public. He has served as the District Ranger in San Bernardino, and most recently he was Director

of Lands and Minerals. In that role, he has acquired 15,990 acres worth \$17 million to be preserved for the public's enjoyment.

Through the efforts of Ernest Dierking, the public can now enjoy hundreds of miles of mountain trails, ski resorts, wildlife watching and peak climbing from the Cucamonga Wilderness on the Los Angeles County line to the Santa Rosa Wilderness in Riverside County.

Mr. Speaker, Ernest Dierking retired from the Forest Service on Sept. 1, ending his 42-year career of accomplishment and public service. Please join me in thanking him for creating a mountain paradise on the edge of our nation's largest urban area, and wishing him well in his future plans.

EULOGY OF MARTIN T. MEEHAN

HON. MARTIN T. MEEHAN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 17, 2000

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of my mother, brothers and sisters, my Aunt Katherine and Uncle John, my cousins, and my entire family, I want to thank all of you for joining us today to help celebrate our father's life. We are all honored by your presence and are grateful for your support and affection over the last few days.

I can imagine my father looking out at the long lines forming outside McCabe's Funeral Home yesterday. He would have said, "Frankie McCabe must be giving something out for free!"

Frank isn't, Dad, believe me.

My father was born in Lowell on July 16, 1927 to Martin H. Meehan and Josephine Ashe Meehan. His father immigrated to the United States from County Claire, Ireland in 1912. His mother, who immigrated from County Kerry the year before, was a cousin of the great Irish patriot Thomas Ashe, who died during one of the first hunger strikes—in Ireland's fight for freedom in Mount Joy Jail in 1916.

Thomas Ashe's picture was hung on the wall of his family home on Batchelder Street in the Acre Section of Lowell. In 1963, a portrait of President Kennedy was added.

The Acre was where the Greek and Irish immigrants settled in Lowell. My father grew up there and he loved it. Swimming in the canals, playing baseball for St. Patrick's and Lowell High School, and building lifetime bonds. It was a neighborhood where the kids were tough and strong, and everyone had a nick name—hence "Buster." The Acre was where thousands of new immigrant families were becoming part of the great American Dream.

In 1946 Dad met my mother at a party her cousin Maureen Gay had. Dad was not invited, he crashed. And my mother was glad he did. They were married three years later.

My father had a saying for everything in life. Some of them really bugged me at times. But they all had a purpose and wisdom for how to lead a good life.

"One God, One Country, One Woman" he used to say. That—one woman—was my mother. He was passionately in love with her through 51 years of marriage. Their love for each other intensified and grew. I believe the love our father and mother shared for one another was extended to every person who was a part of their lives.

I can remember as a very small boy first learning the concept of love. "I love you kids with all my heart", he'd say. "But I love your mother even more". "But Dad", I once replied, "Who am I supposed to love more? You or Ma?" "you kids should love your mother the most", he'd say. "She gave birth to you."

First they lived in a three tenement on Lincoln Street where Colleen and Kathy and I were born. Later they bought an eight room house the next street over at 22 London Street where they raised seven children in a home that was filled with love, laughter, energy . . . action 24 hours a day . . . a strong commitment to the Catholic Church and to family.

It was a great neighborhood—and my father helped us spread our family's love all over it. And there isn't a better testament to that love—than our relationship with the Durkin family who had seven children of their own, just down the street. So many memories, so many stories.

Visiting the ice cream stand with Dad was unforgettable. He would load all of us into the car with as many of our friends as would fit. He would ask us what we wanted. "I'll have a banana split," I'd shout. My sisters would say, "I'll have a hot fudge Sunday." Our friends couldn't believe it—they would order a shake or double ice cream scoop with extra nuts, extra whipped cream!

He'd take everyone's order and then go up to the line. "Don't worry," he'd say, "I'll carry it back". Ten minutes later he'd return with 13 single cups of chocolate ice cream. "That's all they'd had" he shug.

Dad was also a very successful little league coach. On Dad's White Sox team everyone played—at least three innings. I remember how embarrassed I was when Dad's White Sox lost every game. 0-18. Some games we were winning after three innings, 8 to 4 or even 7 to 2. But in the fourth inning Dad put all of the subs in—no matter what. "everyone plays!" he'd say. The other teams kept the best players in for the whole game. Naturally, they would win.

Today I am so proud of the way my Dad coached the kids on that 0 and 18 team. Today, I am so proud of how my father lived his life.

As children, we shared so many happy times together each summer with family and friends at Seabrook Beach. Later as adults, with his grandchildren, we spent weekends at Dad and Mom's beach house. After a few morning hours together on the beach, Mom and Dad would head back to the house to begin the day-long cooking ritual so that we could have dinner together. Many times in the evenings, we would sing songs around a bonfire on the beach. We enjoyed lobster bakes and thankfully Mom and Dad got to enjoy an occasional sunrise together. And many times, after a long day, many of us would sit together and watch the sun go down and our father would say to us all, "it's a great life and it's a great country."

Dad worked at the Lowell Sun Publishing Company for 43 years. He started as a truck driver * * * became a linotype operator * * * then became Assistant Foreman in the Composing Room. He loved the Sun and the newspaper business, and he knew it from soup to nuts. There were a lot of great reporters that came through the Sun over the years, but my father never hesitated to tell them

when he felt they just didn't get it right—especially on a political story.

Frank Phillips, Chris Black, Brian Mooney and others all heard from Dad on more than one occasion. When he was finished he had earned their respect and they appreciated his wisdom and experience. And they all affectionately repeat those stories—even today.

Dad was an active lifetime member of the Typographical Union—serving in a leadership position. He always stressed the importance of workers being able to organize for fair wages and benefits. It's not surprising that my sisters Colleen and Kathy are members of the teachers union and Mark and Paul are active members of their respective unions as well.

But as strong as a Union person as he was—he loved the Lowell Sun and the company's ownership, the Costello family. He followed the Costello kids' lives as if they were his own—always loyal to the company and the Costello family.

Supporting Mom and seven young children was not always easy. For seven years he got a second job working nights as a corrections officer. On Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays he would get up at 5:30 to be at the Sun to punch in at 7 o'clock. His shift was over at 3:30. He'd put on his uniform at the Paper, punch in at the jail at 4 o'clock and work until midnight. He got home by 12:30 in the morning, and went to bed for five hours so he could be back at the paper by 7 a.m.

I'm sure it wasn't easy—but he wanted the best for his children and he wanted my mother to be able to be home with us.

My father didn't care what we did for work—but he wanted us to get an education. And we all did. He was especially proud of the fact that my sisters, Colleen, Kathy, and Mary all became school teachers. He thought it was the most important job of all. "Teaching is NOT a job"—Dad would say—"It's a vocation." He loved the idea that his daughters were helping to shape the minds of 25 kids in a classroom each day.

He was so proud of all his children, in a unique and special way. My brother Mark, a master electrician, "has the biggest and best heart of all my kids," he'd say. And Mark gave Dad his newest precious grandchild "Sarah" just two weeks ago. He was so proud that Paul followed him to the Sheriff's Department. Paul is a model for overcoming obstacles and winning. He recently went back to school for his degree, got married, and was promoted to Captain as well.

When I ran for Congress in 1992 my sister Maureen answered the call and put her work—and life—on hold to take the most important job in the campaign—raising the money to win. My Dad just loved the fact that I turned to my sister. And when we won he knew it was Maureen who was the rock behind us. "Politics is a tough business" he'd say—"you need people you can really trust—and that means family." [That's of course why President Kennedy had Bobby.] Of course after the election, I remember Maureen was sick and I asked, "What's wrong with her now?"—Dad's split second response—"Working for you!"

Dad was so well read, a voracious reader * * * A lover of poetry and words, and boy did he love to sing!

So much love in his heart, and this extension of love was felt by his grandchildren and in-laws. The term "in-laws" didn't mean much

to Dad—he welcomed them and loved them like they were his own. And they loved him back.

All 15 of his grandchildren are loved as individuals and each of them realizes the power of love and family through their papa and munama. One of my young nieces asked during the last couple of days, "How did Papa have so much love to give to so many people?" Well, I really don't know the answer to that for sure. I just know that he did. Every time our father gave us a hug—or as he would say a hug-a-deen—he would accompany it with an "I love you." "Aren't they wonderful," Dad would say. "Your mother and I will live in them in the next generation through these beautiful kids * * * and as I've told you," he'd say "that's, the sweet mystery of life."

So happy, so content, there was NOTHING more in life that he wanted—than that which he already had—His Family.

And he thanked God for our happiness every single day.

Joseph P. Kennedy, Sr., once said that the measure of a man's success in life, was not the money he had made, but rather the family he had raised. That quote has been framed in my parent's home over 15 years. My father believed it and devoted himself to family every day of his life for 73 years. He was an immensely successful man.

We love you Dad and will miss you.

RECOGNIZING THE CAREER OF JOSEPH J. MONFREDO

HON. JAMES P. McGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 17, 2000

Mr. McGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an outstanding member of the Worcester community, Joseph J. Monfredo, who is retiring this month after 36 years of service in the Worcester Public Schools. Throughout his career in the school system, Mr. Monfredo has been a dedicated and enthusiastic leader.

A graduate of Worcester State College and a veteran of the United States Army, Mr. Monfredo began his teaching career in September of 1963 in Leicester, Massachusetts. His first job with the Worcester Public School System came in September of 1964 when he accepted a position at the Elizabeth Street School. Mr. Monfredo taught at several schools and served as assistant and acting principal of the Thorndyke Road School. In August of 1989, he became principal of the Burncoat Preparatory Elementary School, where he has worked for the past 11 years.

For his service to the schools, Mr. Monfredo has been recognized by the Commonwealth Leadership Academy, the Principals' Institute of the Harvard Graduate School of Education and the Alliance for Education.

A former letterman in varsity baseball at Worcester State College, Mr. Monfredo has also been active in school sports programs. He has coached several varsity and junior varsity teams in football, basketball, and baseball, as well as coaching and managing Babe Ruth League baseball teams. Most recently, Mr. Monfredo coached soccer at Burncoat Elementary.

It is my privilege and honor to recognize Joseph Monfredo for his dedication to the stu-

dents of Worcester, and his 36 years of service to the Worcester Public Schools. While he will no doubt be missed by the many students, teachers, and parents of the Burncoat Preparatory Elementary School, I wish him, his wife, and family continued health and happiness in the future.

IN HONOR OF OLGA ALVAREZ, ANCHOR WOMAN AND REPORTER FOR UNIVISION

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 17, 2000

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Olga Alvarez, anchorwoman and reporter for Univision (Channel 41 in NYC). Ms. Alvarez has made it a priority to keep Latinos well informed about current events and news that affects their community, empowering them to participate fully in American society. For her contributions to broadcast journalism, the National Association of Cuban Journalists in Exile will pay tribute to Ms. Alvarez at an event on Sunday, October 15, 2000.

Olga Alvarez was born in Havana, Cuba and was raised in Puerto Rico. Her parents were musicians, who regularly performed on live television. As a child, Ms. Alvarez was influenced greatly by her parents' television performances, making television her favorite medium.

Ms. Alvarez began her career as a production assistant and producer, working on projects that included documentaries and video news releases produced in the United States, Mexico, and Puerto Rico. During this time, Ms. Alvarez was a correspondent for Telemundo's "La Buena Vida," a program highlighting the accomplishments of Latinos. In addition, she worked as a segment producer for the daily magazine show "Club Telemundo," developing and writing stories regarding medicine, family relations, and important community issues.

At Univision's WXTV 41, Ms. Alvarez began as a writer and later became a reporter, hosting the station's community service program and reporting tri-state area news on "Despierta America."

In 1997 and 1998, Ms. Alvarez was awarded the "Latin A.C.E." from the New York Latino Entertainment Reporters Association. In 1999, Ms. Alvarez won an Emmy for "La Clave De La Salsa," a series on the history of salsa music. In addition, she was awarded First Plaque in the New Jersey Associated Press Broadcasting Association Awards, and second place in the New Jersey Press Awards. Recently, she received an Honorable Mention from the Associated Press for "Regalo De Vida," a series on the importance of liver donation and transplantation.

Today, I honor Olga Alvarez for her extraordinary career in broadcast journalism, and I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring her.

THE NEW SERBIAN LEADERSHIP: WE SHOULD TEMPER REJOICING WITH CAUTION

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 17, 2000

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, the departure of Slobodan Milosevic as President of Yugoslavia was greeted with almost universal rejoicing. More than most other national leaders in recent memory, Mr. Milosevic has come to identified with the excesses and atrocities of nationalism run amuck. Mr. Milosevic encouraged and fostered excessive Serbian nationalism in order to further his own personal political goals, and he bears a heavy responsibility for the barbarities and savagery of the conflicts in Croatia, Bosnia, and Kosova over the past decade. The international community recognized his personal responsibility for events in the former Yugoslavia by indicting him as a war criminal.

Mr. Speaker, in Belgrade general enthusiasm greeted the news that Mr. Milosevic had lost the presidential elections and that the people of Serbia would not tolerate his continued political manipulations to preserve himself in power. The change is a welcome one, and one that I sincerely hope will lead to the restoration of stability in the former Yugoslavia.

While the departure of Mr. Milosevic is most welcome, the arrival of Mr. Kostunica does not mean the resolution of all problems involving Serbia. I think it is important that we temper our rejoicing with a note of caution.

It is important, Mr. Speaker, to place these changes in some perspective. This change is not the result of an upsurge of democratic sentiment, nor is it a rejection of the excesses of Serbian nationalism that have resulted in so much bloodshed and violence over the past decade. To a great extent, Mr. Speaker, it is a rejection not of the bankrupt policies of Mr. Milosevic, but a rejection of the consequences of those policies—the economic hardship created by the international sanctions against Serbia, the destruction in Serbia that resulted from the NATO campaign to halt the depredations against the Kosovars, and international isolation.

Mr. Speaker, Leon Wieseltier published an excellent article in the more recent issue of *The New Republic* (October 23, 2000) which focuses on these critical issues and the significance of the changes in Serbia. I submit excerpts of Mr. Wieseltier's article to be placed in the RECORD, and I urge my colleagues to give his views the thoughtful attention they deserve.

[*The New Republic*, October 23, 2000]

THE TROUBLE WITH EXHILARATION:

KOSTUNICA, THEN

(By Leon Wieseltier)

... The uprising in Belgrade established justice incompletely. The limitations of Kostunica and his revolution are disturbing. He is an unembarrassed Serbian nationalist, who does not see or does not wish to see that the tribal sentiment of his people, their "national question," has been not the solution but the problem. He translated *The Federalist Papers* into Serbo-Croatian, but during the Bosnian war he was sympathetic to the Serb separatism of Radovan Karadzic, and during the buildup to the Kosovo war he was photographed brandishing an automatic

rifle in the company of some Kosovar Serbs . . . He has declared that he will not deliver the war criminal whom he has deposed to the tribunal in The Hague, whose legitimacy he has contested. He is a democrat who wants his country to become a member of the European Union, but he welcomes the machinations of the Russian foreign minister, whose government was singularly unmoved by the democratic ascendancy in Serbia.

In all these ways Kostunica seems genuinely representative of his people, whose ethical energies are ominously circumscribed by ethnic energies. The press accounts of the election that Milosevic lost, and of the uprising that followed his refusal to abide by its results, describe a population that was angry about the consequences of the sanctions that the West had imposed upon Milosevic's country, the poverty and the pariahdom. They were also tired of Milosevic's abuses of state power, especially his authoritarian control of the media. What motivated their rebellion, in other words, was their outrage at all that Milosevic had done to them. What was missing from the hue and the cry (at least as it was reported in the Western press) was outrage at what Milosevic had done to others—to Croats, to Bosnians, to Kosovars. It was not his mass rapes, mass expulsions, and mass murders that brought Milosevic down. What brought him down were the unhappy consequences for Serbia of his failure in his ugly adventures. And the notion that the opprobrium that was visited upon Milosevic's Serbia was in any way deserved—that it was the right result of Belgrade's criminal actions—seems not to have figured prominently in the thinking of the Serbian crowds. They revolted against their leader, but not against themselves.

Is it asking too much that a society revolt against itself? It is surely asking a lot. Yet it has happened before; and there are circumstances in which a new beginning requires nothing less. The weight of history is heavier for being unacknowledged. In this sense, President Clinton erred significantly when he remarked that "this is just as big a blow for freedom as we saw when the Berlin Wall was torn down, when Lech Walesa led the shipyard workers in Poland." This was precisely the wrong parallel. I do not doubt that there are many genuine democrats in Serbia; but the striking fact, the discouraging fact, about the Serbian opposition during the past decade is that it has not been characterized by the stringent and exalted kind of dissidence that was produced elsewhere in the orbit of communism, where figures arose who directed their criticism at the foundations of their own societies, and who expressed their criticism in ferociously universal terms. Kostunica is certainly not such a figure. He is not proposing such a fundamental examination. It has often been remarked that Milosevic's regime was communism surviving in the form of nationalism; but it is important to observe that in Serbia anti-communism, too, takes the form of nationalism. For this reason, it has been only partially an uprising of conscience. And for this reason, one's exhilaration at the denouement in Belgrade is a little spoiled. . . .

IN MEMORY OF THOMAS D.
GRAHAM

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 17, 2000

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, it is with deep sadness that I inform the House of the death

of Tom Graham, of Jefferson City, Missouri. He was 77.

Tom, a son of Charles E. and Margaret Cuthbertson Graham, was born on October 14, 1922, in St. Louis. He attended Jefferson City public schools and was a recipient of the Distinguished Alumnus Award. He also attended the University of Missouri. After serving in the Army Air Corps during World War II, Tom practiced law in Jefferson City for 50 years. From 1951 to 1973, he was in the Missouri House of Representatives, serving three terms as Speaker of the House from 1961 to 1967.

Tom was president of the National Legislative Conference from 1966 to 1967, and commissioner of the National Conference on Commissioners on Uniform State Laws. He was vice-chairman of the Missouri-New York World's Fair Commission. Tom was a member of the First Christian Church and a past member of the Jefferson Lodge 43, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, Ancient and Accepted Orders of Nobles of the Mystic Shrine, Moolah Temple, St. Louis. He was a member of the Missouri Bar, Phi Gamma Delta social fraternity and Phi Delta Phi legal fraternity.

Tom was also involved in many civic activities in Jefferson City. He was on the Board of Directors of the Jefferson City Chamber of Commerce and the Board of Trustees of Memorial Community Hospital. He served as president of the Cole County Chapter, University of Missouri Alumni Association, and the Cole County Bar Association. He was a merit badge counselor for the Boy Scouts of America.

Tom married the late Christine Wood Graham on April 22, 1944. They were married for almost 54 years and had one son, Christopher Graham.

Mr. Speaker, Tom Graham was my good friend and a great American. I know the Members of the House will join me in extending heartfelt condolences to his family.

IN HONOR OF THE FORT WORTH
MASJID OF AL-ISLAM

HON. MARTIN FROST

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 17, 2000

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, this weekend in Fort Worth, Texas, it will be my honor and privilege to attend and participate in events which promote racial and religious unity and peace. On October 21, 2000, the Fort Worth Masjid of Al-Islam, under the leadership of Imam Nasir Ahmed, will host a Southwest Regional Pioneer Banquet honoring those it considers to be pioneers in the causes of diversity, religious interaction, Islam, economic development, political awareness and education.

I am humbled to be among a group of honorees which includes religious radio broadcaster and journalist, Robert Ashley; American Jewish Congress Southwest Region executive director, Joel Brooks; community relations consultant, writer and member of the Thanksgiving Square Interfaith Council, Rose Marie Stromberg; 97-year old founder of the Tarrant County Black Historical and Genealogical Society, Lenora Rolla; long-time Muslim, 95-year old Dave Hassen; and the organizer of Brooks of Baaziga, a Muslim girl's group, Ruby B. Muhammad.

The work of the Fort Worth Masjid of Al-Islam is, by itself, noteworthy. Yet, the Masjid's efforts are heightened and broadened by the fact that this celebration will include the personage and the teachings of The Honorable Imam Warith Deen Mohammed, leader of the Muslim American Society. Throughout this country and around the world Imam Mohammed is known, respected and admired for his work towards peace, religious freedom and diversity and liberty for all people. On October 22, 2000, the Fort Worth-Dallas area will have the pleasure of receiving his message on "Dealing With Racism From Religion". It is my great pleasure, therefore, to join with the Fort Worth Masjid of Al-Islam, its brothers and sisters in the Dallas Masjid of Al-Islam and the larger Fort Worth-Dallas community in heartily welcoming Imam Mohammed to our community.

NATIONAL AIDS TESTING DAY

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 17, 2000

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, the Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) epidemic is one of the deadliest foes that we have faced in recent history. Like any foe, we must learn all we can about this deadly virus and take appropriate action to halt its assault on society.

One of the first steps in stopping the spread of HIV is to know if one is infected. A recent study showed that 90% of the people who knew their HIV status changed their sexual behavior, thus helping to stop the spread of HIV. This statistic illustrates the importance of knowing one's HIV status. I believe it is essential for all U.S. citizens to be aware of their HIV status. This will not only help them stay healthy, but it is the first step in preventing the transmission of HIV to others.

Unfortunately, many people in this country are unaware of their HIV status. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) estimate that 900,000 people may be infected with HIV and nearly one-third of these individuals or 270,000 are unaware of their HIV status.

We must ensure that people have access to all FDA approved HIV tests. It is the simplest and cheapest form of prevention.

A barrier to HIV testing is that it is often perceived as painful because some testing requires blood samples taken through needles. Many people fear needles and therefore would rather not be tested than give blood.

I am pleased to learn that there is FDA approved technologies that do not require the use of needles. Companies like Calypso Biomedical, which is located in my own state of Maryland and in California, have focused on developing HIV diagnostic test that do not use needles, such as the HIV urine tests.

Why then are so many not being tested?

It has come to my attention that some facilities within the public health infrastructure are discouraging local community testing groups from using HIV tests that require only a urine sample. Some states have even passed legislation that prevents organizations from accessing FDA approved HIV urine testing technologies.

It is critical that our public health infrastructure, which receives Federal Medicare, Medicaid and block grant funds, supports all FDA

approved HIV testing systems. In our efforts to help people learn their HIV status, we must guarantee access to all HIV testing options, like urine testing.

A first step in this direction is to become involved in the upcoming National AIDS Testing Day. The National AIDS Testing Day is coordinated by the National Association of People with AIDS (NAPWA), which Calypse Bio-medical supports.

I strongly encourage all of my colleagues to become involved with this effort.

TRIBUTE TO LOWELL PAXSON

HON. MARK FOLEY

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 17, 2000

Mr. FOLEY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize a distinguished broadcaster and American, Mr. Lowell "Bud" Paxson. Mr. Paxson has been involved in the broadcasting industry for over 40 years, providing wholesome and family-friendly programming to millions of people nationwide.

PAX TV, founded by Paxson and headquartered near my West Palm Beach home, provides safe programming that the whole family can enjoy. This network has been welcomed by American parents seeking an alternative to much of the violent and sexually suggestive programming currently being marketed to America's children. As a result, the popularity of PAX TV has made it the seventh largest television network in the country.

Bud Paxson is a good friend and an up-standing civic leader. Last year, he received the "Entrepreneur of the Year" award by Florida Atlantic University. This year, he received an honorary Doctor of Laws degree by Barry University. This honor is given to individuals who have been recognized for outstanding achievements in their profession, communities, and the world.

Today I want to honor Bud for his excellent corporate example as well as thank him for his friendship and selflessness.

H.R. 5164: TRANSPORTATION RECALL ENHANCEMENT, ACCOUNTABILITY, AND DOCUMENTATION ACT

HON. EDWARD J. MARKEY

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 17, 2000

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to offer a few brief additional comments on the so-called "TREAD Act," which passed the House last week in order to clarify the intent of one key provision that was added after committee consideration.

The legislation as it arrived on the floor included a provision addressing child restraints. This was a provision that Representative SHIMKUS (R-IL) had promoted and a subject in which we engaged in a colloquy at the Commerce Committee markup on the bill. I am very pleased that this provision was added to the legislation as it was deliberated on the House floor.

Mr. Speaker, it has become increasingly apparent that child restraints are too often mar-

keted for children who are larger and heavier than the anthropomorphic test dummies used by National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) in the sled tests that the agency utilizes. This was highlighted for the Commerce Committee members through the work performed by Consumer Reports magazine. Its independent testing demonstrated that child restraints tested with a child at the highest weight recommended by the manufacturer of that product failed. The House added the provision dealing with child restraints to the TREAD Act specifically to encourage NHTSA to allow child restraints to be marketed for children at specific weights only if the restraint has been tested at that weight, even its this means adding weights to a dummy during testing.

Although NHTSA's standard specifies that child restraints be tested at an impact of 30 mph, the Consumer Reports investigation uncovered that tests are regularly conducted at speeds as low as 27.6 mph. This 3-mph differential mean that only 81 percent as much energy is going into the crash. Again, the Consumer Reports' testing indicated child restraint failures when testing was carried out at 30 mph.

As a result, I strongly encourage NHTSA to require testing be carried out at speeds of 27.9 to 30.3. American families will be better served by such testing and I thank the Speaker for the opportunity to include these views in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD as part of the legislative history on this particular provision of the TREAD Act.

TRIBUTE TO THOMAS J. CAULFIELD, INDUCTEE, W.N.Y. BASEBALL HALL OF FAME

HON. JACK QUINN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 17, 2000

Mr. QUINN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to salute the individuals who were inducted into the W.N.Y. Baseball Hall of Fame on September 27, 2000 and pay special tribute to Thomas J. (Sarge) Caulfield, inducted posthumously, for his lifelong commitment to baseball, the youth of the City of Buffalo and the local and national community.

Tom, or "Sarge" as he was affectionately referred to, spent a lifetime teaching, coaching, helping and guiding young men throughout the Niagara Frontier. It is not clearly known how Tom acquired the nickname "Sarge" although there were several theories. One involves his uncanny knack of referring to others as Sarge. Another, and probably closer to the reality, holds that it came from his unique ability to take charge of even the most difficult situation, always with an eye for taking care of his charges, and confronting it with his popular refrain, "not a problem."

In his youth, Tom was an outstanding athlete and baseball player and, indeed, considered by some a professional prospect. He received All-High honors as a baseball player at South Park High School in 1933. Moreover, in 1932, he played for the Millers, New York State Legion champions, and for the Haff and Haskins, 1935 Buffalo Municipal Baseball Association (MUNY) champions. In 1938, he moved to coach/manager leading the South

Buffalo Businessmen to a MUNY championship behind pitchers Warren Walters and Warren (Lefty) Spahn, who went on to become the winningest left-handed pitcher in major league baseball. Interestingly, it has been said that Tom was instrumental in the purchase of "Lefty" Spahn's first pair of baseball spikes.

Tom's passion for baseball and his commitment to youth development lead him to progress from player, to coach, to manager and, ultimately, to distinguish baseball organization official. In 1969, "Sarge" received a special award from the MUNY league for his outstanding contributions to Western New York baseball. In 1976, Tom served as the president of MUNY baseball. More significantly, in 1968, he was named "Man of the Year" by the National Amateur Baseball Federation (NABF), a national organization dedicated to amateur baseball and known as the "oldest sand lot organization in America, operating continuously since 1914." Tom was praised by the NABF for his overall contributions to amateur baseball and credited as "one of the top fund raisers for the youth of America." "Sarge," who served as NABF president in 1977, was instrumental in getting the City of Buffalo to host the NABF National Tournament and, by all accounts, did such a magnificent job as a host city official, that the NABF honored Buffalo by returning the tournament to our great city the following year. Through his efforts on behalf of and association with the NABF, Tom was memorialized in the baseball hall of fame at Cooperstown, N.Y. As reported at Tom's induction into the Hall of Fame, in the 1960's and 1970's, "Sarge" was probably the most influential person in amateur baseball throughout the United States. "Sarge" also managed for many years the Ramblers. Originally started as a South Buffalo team, expanded over the years, the Ramblers became a highly competitive force in local amateur baseball.

However, there is another side to Tom Caulfield that deserves special mention because of its impact on Buffalo area youth. Tom, as Superintendent of the Department of Parks for the City of Buffalo, sincerely believed that participation in sports coupled with an opportunity to work, kept youngsters "off the streets." He worked tirelessly in helping his players and others get jobs for the city and elsewhere. In fact, it has often been repeated by former players and employees that if it were not for the tutelage, encouragement and guidance of the "Sarge," the positive life choices they made would never have been available. One example of his commitment to lend a helping hand, even when not expected, involves a city worker who was experiencing an increasingly troublesome attendance problem. Even though Tom was the head of the Department and receiving pressure from the supervisor, who worked for Tom, to fire the individual, he got up early one morning and drove to the delinquent worker's house and woke him up to take him to work. When the worker complained that Tom had no right to come to his house, Tom calmly pointed to and named the worker's four children and wife as the basis of his right to take such action. The attendance problem was solved.

Although Tom was better known for his practicality and problem-solving acumen, he was also deeply philosophical about parks and recreation. With the passion and understanding generally attributed to the preminent

urban planners and landscape architects of our time, Tom, sincerely believed, and practically applied, during his long tenure with the Parks Department, the concept that harmonious urban living demanded adequate opportunities for individuals to recreate. His pride and efforts in the development and maintenance of recreational outlets was formally recognized in 1974 when the Buffalo Recreation Society presented him with its Outstanding Service Award.

Finally, in spite of all his work on behalf of others, Tom utilized his unique talents and considerable energy to balance his outside activities with an extreme dedication to his own family. Therefore, it is with great pleasure and pride that I join Tom's family, especially his wife Mary (Hanratty), who passed away in 1999; his daughter Marilynn; his sons Mark J., John T., and Thomas E.; his grandchildren John, Alyson, Liam, Lauren, John A. (Jace), Molly; his great grandchildren Rachel, Bridget and great-great grandchild, Maria Christina; his former players, proteges, employees, friends, and a grateful city in giving special recognition for his induction into the W.N.Y. Hall of Fame and his immeasurable contributions to youth development in the Buffalo area.

Mr. Speaker, if the measure of a man's life is his positive influence on others, it can be said, without equivocation, that the legacy of Thomas J. Caulfield will continue for generations through the lives of those he mentored and touched.

WELCOMING TRADITIONS!

HON. TOM UDALL

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 17, 2000

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I would like to bring to your attention the grand opening of Traditions! which is located in my district. Let me first start by thanking Michael Gallegos and James Long and the many others who have worked so hard to establish a shopping and cultural center that keeps alive the culture, traditions and heritage of New Mexico.

While New Mexico proudly proclaims itself as the State of many cultures—some call it a melting pot, others a mosaic—we all have at least one thing in common, and that is keeping together our strong connection to the history and traditions of our state. The heritage of those cultures is rich and proud, is very much alive here today, and one which should be cherished and passed on.

Traditions! has been boasted in various articles as most likely being the largest incubator program for start-up retail businesses my state has ever seen. Traditions! is one of the few multicultural centers in the country that showcases and preserves New Mexico's unique rich, and historical cultures.

This center will contain unique stores and shops that will showcase Indian and Hispanic Arts. Visitors find restaurants which reflect the culinary specialties of New Mexico—like posole, tortillas and green chile burgers. The center will serve as a gathering place where both residents and tourists can come to learn about the culture and traditions of New Mexico.

Native American, Spanish, Mexican, and Anglo cultures will all be featured during year

round events and performances—such as exhibits, shows, and festivals.

The economic impact that the center will have is also impressive. More than a hundred jobs will be created, and over a thousand artists will be invited to showcase and sell their work.

That is why Traditions! is so relevant. For our future to be as promising as our past has been successful, we need to keep alive the cultural traditions, history, and heritage of our state. This center not only contributes to the economy of our state—it also helps to preserve our history and spirit.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

HON. EARL POMEROY

OF NORTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 17, 2000

Mr. POMEROY. Mr. Speaker, during the month of October, people across the nation will don purple ribbons in support of National Domestic Violence Awareness Month. As an effort to increase public awareness of a problem that causes anguish to so many, residents in my home state of North Dakota, as well as across the nation, will participate in myriad events, such as candlelight vigils, "Take Back the Night" rallies, and other educational demonstrations.

Domestic violence is one of our nation's most prevalent, yet misunderstood, tragedies. The North Dakota Council on Abused Women's Services recently released statistics concerning domestic violence and sexual assault in 1999 that should alarm us all. Last year, 5,821 incidents of domestic violence were reported to crisis intervention centers in North Dakota. These incidents involved 3,597 new victims. Among the victims, 95% were women, 37% were under the age of 30, and 2% were under the age of 18.

The North Dakota Council on Abused Women's Services also reported that at least 4,750 children were directly impacted by domestic violence incidents in 1999. This does not include the large number of unreported cases. Withdrawal, low self-esteem, nightmares, self-blame and aggression against peers, family members and property are just a few of the emotional and behavioral disturbances that children who witness violence at home display. These effects stay with a child ultimately influencing their educational, professional and personal life.

While commemorating this month of awareness, I am proud to also mark the sixth anniversary of one of the most important stands Congress has ever taken against domestic violence: The Violence Against Women Act (VAWA). Through programs that bolster prosecution of sexual assault and domestic violence, increase victim services, and step up education and prevention activities, VAWA has gone far to protect individuals from sexual offenses and domestic abuse. I am pleased to announce that through a bipartisan effort H.R. 1248, the Violence Against Women Act of 1999, of which I was an original co-sponsor, passed in the House of Representatives. This legislation reauthorizes VAWA programs for five more years allowing a number of federal grant programs intended to care for those affected by these tragic crimes to continue.

Domestic violence will not end until the nation as a whole unites in saying "no more!" Each time one person learns of a domestic violence situation and decides to turn her head she is, in effect, approving of the situation and allowing it to continue. As members of society we must become proactive and take a stand against this horrific situation.

H.R. 5474 AMENDING TITLE 38 TO PROVIDE COMPENSATION FOR VETERANS DISABLED BY TREATMENT OR VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION

HON. PATSY T. MINK

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 17, 2000

Mrs. MINK of Hawaii. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce an important piece of legislation. H.R. 5474 will allow veterans disabled by treatment or vocational rehabilitation to receive compensation from the day they were disabled while under VA care.

The occurrence of medical malpractice in which veterans are disabled while under Veterans Affairs' care is rare compared with the total number of veterans served every year. In 1997, the last year in which data was available, there were 826,846 inpatients treated and 32,640,000 outpatient visits at VA medical centers at a cost of \$17.149 billion. There are 173 VA medical centers, more than 391 outpatient and outreach clinics, 131 nursing home care units and 39 domiciliaries.

Without this network of government run VA hospitals, clinics and nursing care units, many veterans would never receive the care available to them. However, it is clear that the care provided is not always of the highest quality. Worse than inadequate care are the instances in which veterans receive care that leaves them further disabled.

Since 1990, 9,597 administrative malpractice claims were filed by Veterans with VA and 2,134 were settled. The total amount paid in claims settled was nearly \$1.73 million.

During the same time period, 2,064 veterans filed court claims against VA. 626 of these court claims were dismissed, the U.S. won 272, and plaintiffs won 129 court claims for a total of \$65,858,110. 1,315 VA court claims were settled out of court by VA, in the amount of \$253,464,632.

In 1958 Congress established Title 38, U.S.C. Sec. 1151, Benefits for Persons Disabled by Treatment or Vocational Rehabilitation. Along with Sec. 1151, Sec. 5110 of the same Title established the effective date of an award for disability incurred during treatment or vocational rehabilitation. These two sections ensured that veterans disabled by their treatment received compensation. This was the fair and right thing to do.

A close review of these sections reveals an inconsistency. While the U.S. Code allowed compensation for veterans disabled by treatment or vocational rehabilitation, it established an arbitrary cut off date of one year to deny individuals full compensation.

Individuals who are unable or not aware of this arbitrary application date for medical malpractice claims should not be denied full compensation for administrative reasons. Statutes of limitations like this are important for preserving the rights of individuals but the VA should be held to a different standard.

Veterans who prove that they were disabled while under the care of Veterans Affairs should be compensated from the day of their injury regardless of their date of application.

This bill will repeal U.S. Code Section 5110 which allows Veterans Affairs to avoid its responsibility to veterans it disables during treatment or vocational rehabilitation. H.R. 5474 also allows veterans who did not receive full and fair compensation from the date of their injury to receive this compensation upon enactment of this bill.

I urge my colleagues to end this unfair practice by cosponsoring H.R. 5474.

SECURE RURAL SCHOOLS AND COMMUNITY SELF-DETERMINATION ACT OF 2000

SPEECH OF

HON. LARRY COMBEST

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 10, 2000

Mr. COMBEST. Mr. Speaker, as the Chairman of the House Committee on Agriculture, which has primary jurisdiction over the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-determination Act of 2000 (H.R. 2389), I rise on behalf of myself and Mr. STENHOLM, the ranking member of the committee, to explain the intent behind a number of provisions in the bill and how we expect these provisions to be carried out. We will address these roughly in the order in which they appear in the bill.

Sections 101(a), 102(a), 102(b) and 102(c) of Title I provide how payments to states and allocations to the counties within those states should be calculated and made under this Act. The intent behind these provisions is to ensure that each county's elective share of a state's full payment amount be based, to the extent practicable, on the county's historic percentage of the 25% payments received by the state during the eligibility period. Thus, if over the course of the eligibility period a county received 10% of the aggregate payments made to the state, that county would be allocated 10% of the amount calculated for the state under section 101(a) if the county elected to receive its full payment amount.

It is understood that there will be exceptions to this general rule based on the individual circumstances of states and counties. Congress has been careful to delegate the determination of each county's portion of a state's full payment amount to the state to accommodate these exceptions. It is expected, however, that such exceptions will be relatively rare and the reasons for them compelling.

Title II of the bill establishes a significant new role for counties and local stakeholders in federal land management decision-making. It is essential to explain several provisions in this Title to ensure that it is carried out in a way that will meet the intended policy objectives.

The overarching intent of Title II is to foster local creativity and innovation with regard to the projects that participating counties and resource advisory committees propose to the Secretary. This necessarily requires the Secretary concerned to flexibly construe the provisions in this title. It is understood that not every project proposed by resource advisory committees will succeed. It is expected, how-

ever, that participating counties and resource advisory committees be given every opportunity, within the parameters of existing law, to make their ideas work.

Section 202 establishes a general limitation on the use of project funds to ensure that such funds are used on projects that meet "resource objectives consistent with the purposes of this Title." This provision is further explained by subsection 203(c), which states that projects submitted to the Secretary under this title "shall be consistent with section 2(b)." Thus, projects conducted under Title II are permissible provided they meet the objectives identified in section 2(b).

A similar dynamic exists between sections 204(f) and 203(c). Section 204(f) requires that 50% of all Title II project funds be used for road maintenance, decommissioning or obliteration or for the restoration of streams and watersheds. It is expected that these requirements be construed to include a broad range of projects that are consistent with the requirements of section 2(b), as provided by section 203(c). For example, a forest thinning project that meets the requirements of section 2(b) would also meet the requirements of section 204(f) if its purpose were to restore the vegetation within a watershed to a more fire-resistant state.

Section 203(a)(1) provides that resource advisory committees must submit project proposals to the Secretary concerned "not later than September 30 for fiscal year 2001 and each September 30 thereafter for each succeeding fiscal year through fiscal year 2006. This provision is reiterated in section 207(a). The relationship between the participating county and the resource advisory committee under these provisions is significant to the policy objectives that these provisions seek to achieve.

It is intended that the participating county and the resource advisory committee come to an agreement on the projects to be undertaken prior to submission of such projects to the Secretary concerned. It is for this reason that the date by which the county must elect whether to reserve project funds for Title II projects and the date by which the resource advisory committee must submit Title II project proposals to the Secretary concerned are identical.

It is expected that counties and resource advisory committees will come to an agreement on the projects that will be proposed to the Secretary concerned in advance of the September 30 deadline for each fiscal year. However, it is also understood that, in some cases, this deadline will not be met. It is for this reason that language has been included under section 207(b) allowing unobligated project funds from one fiscal year to be rolled over for use in the subsequent fiscal year. Thus, if agreement between the participating county and resource advisory committee is not reached by the conclusion of a fiscal year, the county may defer its election regarding the use of such funds to the subsequent fiscal year. A resource advisory committee may not, under any circumstance, propose a project to the Secretary concerned over the objection of the participating county.

Section 204(e)(3) establishes a pilot program for the implementation of projects involving merchantable material. The central concept tested in this pilot program, as identified in paragraph 3(A), is the use of separate con-

tracts for the removal and sale of such material.

This provision purposely does not specify how merchantable material shall be handled or transported between removal and sale. This provides maximum flexibility to federal resource managers and private contractors to innovate in ways that will minimize costs and optimize efficiencies while meeting desirable resource management objectives. It is expected, for example, that federal managers will work with private contractors to develop creative ways to minimize transportation and other transactional costs associated with the contracts. It is also expected that implementation of the pilot program will not create market competition between the Secretary and the private sector in markets for the sale and use of merchantable materials.

It is intended that the Secretary concerned will implement this pilot program, to the extent practicable, on a voluntary basis. The Secretary should first include projects in the pilot that have been requested for inclusion by resource advisory committees. The Secretary concerned should not require a project to be included in the pilot program over the objection of a resource advisory committee or participating county if inclusion is not necessary to meet the percentage requirements of the pilot or if other projects that would not draw objections from resource advisory committees are available for inclusion.

The annual percentage requirements provided under paragraph 3(B) requires only that a fixed percentage of all projects involving merchantable material be included in the pilot program for a given fiscal year. This provision is purposefully silent on the size and cost of projects to be included in the pilot. It is intended that the Secretary will, to the extent practicable, limit the pilot program to projects that are smaller in scope in order to test the premises of the pilot with minimal impact on other projects involving merchantable material carried out under Title II.

Paragraph 3(E) authorizes the Secretary concerned to use funds from any appropriated account, not to exceed \$1 million annually, to administer projects under the pilot program. It is intended that the Secretary use this authority only to the extent that it does not reduce or otherwise interfere with program delivery within the accounts from which such funds are taken.

Section 204(e)(3)(E) requires the Comptroller General to review the pilot program and report to Congress on its effectiveness. It is intended that such report will be the basis for determining whether the pilot program should continue. Should the Comptroller General find that the program is not performing efficiently, that it is creating market competition between the government and the private sector, that is hindering the successful planning or implementation of projects, or that it is deterring resource advisory committees from proposing projects involving merchantable material, it is expected that the program will be terminated.

Section 205 establishes resource advisory committees to assist counties in the selection and proposal of projects under Title II and Title III. Because the success of each advisory committee will depend largely on the cooperation of its members, it is expected that the Secretary will appoint to resource advisory committees only individuals who have a demonstrated ability to work collaboratively with

others of differing viewpoints and achieve good faith compromise. It is strictly contrary to the intent and purposes of this Act for the Secretary concerned to appoint to a resource advisory committee any individual who will likely act in a dilatory manner so as to impede the ability of the resource advisory committee to propose projects to the Secretary concerned or carry out any of its responsibilities as provided in this Act.

It is the intent of the House sponsors that members of resource advisory committees be selected from within local communities. Section 205(d)(4) provides that "the Secretary shall ensure local representation in each category" of membership within a resource advisory committee. It is expected that, with rare exception, members of resource advisory committees will be selected from among the residents of the eligible counties within which the committee will operate. The Secretary concerned should not appoint non-local individuals to resource advisory committees when local individuals who represent the same viewpoint or interest and meet the requirements for membership are available.

It is expected that the Secretary concerned will establish a sufficient number of re-

source advisory committees to facilitate involvement and collaboration at the most local level possible. It would be inappropriate and contrary to the intent of this Act for the Secretary concerned to establish one resource advisory committee for an entire state. Rather, the Secretary concerned should establish resource advisory committees at the eligible county level to the extent practicable. The Secretary concerned may establish a resource advisory committee to serve more than one eligible county, where circumstances require it (for example, if several small counties border a single unit of the national forest system), but the Secretary concerned should exercise restraint in this regard and make every effort to establish the committee at the most local level possible.

Title III of the bill establishes a separate class of projects to that provided in Title II. Title III projects require approval by the participating county only to the extent that they do not involve management activities on federal lands that would normally be conducted by the Secretary concerned. It is understood and expected that some of the projects arising under Title III will involve activities on federal lands and require cooperation with and approval

from the Secretary concerned. For example, fire prevention and county planning efforts provided under section 302(b)(5) may be conducted in cooperation with federal efforts to reduce wildfire risk in the wildland-urban interface. It would be appropriate in this case for a county to leverage county funds against federal funds allocated to do the project planning and NEPA analysis required for forest thinning and other forms of vegetation management. This kind of cooperation would necessarily require approval from the Secretary concerned in addition to approval by the county for the use of county funds.

Finally, section 403 of Title IV provides that the Secretaries concerned may jointly issue regulations to carry out the purposes of this Act. It is not the intent of the House sponsors that regulations are necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act. However, they might be helpful in some cases. It would be contrary to congressional intent for the Secretary concerned to delay implementation of any provisions of this act because the Secretary has not completed a rule-making process addressing the implementation of such provision.